

THE TIMES



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MONDAY NOVEMBER 4 1996

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THE GUIDE TO TV, RADIO AND ENTERTAINMENT

Blair puts the family at Labour's policy heart

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR promises today that he will not be driven off the new morality agenda dominating British politics, and that he will put promotion of "strong families" at the heart of Labour policy-making.

Writing in *The Times*, the Labour leader makes clear that he will resist Conservative attempts to concentrate public debate on the economy, and he denies that his party is leaping on the morality bandwagon.

Confirmation that Mr Blair is intent on pursuing the morality agenda will further irritate John Major, whose relations with the Labour leader are at a low ebb. The Prime Minister has privately attacked Mr Blair's "sanctimonious" approach to the morality issue and is even reported to have likened him to Elmer Gantry, the fictional fire-and-brimstone evangelist who turned out to be a charlatan and a fraud using his talent for preaching to his own ends.

But in his article today, Mr Blair defends his approach and insists that Labour is not trying to govern private social morality. He says that the idea of a new social morality is not "a lurch into nostalgia or Victorian hypocrisy. We do not want to return to prejudiced attitudes on sex, sexuality or the role of women. Neither do we believe that supporting the family means attacking lone parents, the vast bulk of whom

key theme of the Queen's Speech. Now it is dropped. And they accuse us of being cynical and driven by polls."

Labour election strategists decided last week to continue harrying the Government on issues that in the past it has numbered among its strengths. They are desperately seeking an issue on which the Opposition parties can unite against the Government, whose Commons majority fell to one yesterday after the death from cancer of Barry Porter, who had a majority of 8,183 as MP for Wirral South.

The Government's majority is expected to be wiped out next month after a by-election at Labour-held Barnsley East, and it would go into minority for the first time in nearly 18 consecutive years of office if it loses the Wirral by-election, expected in February.

The Labour leader's article appears as Conservative sources confirmed that relations between Mr Blair and Mr Major are at a low ebb — although officials in Mr Blair's office denied that he had any complaint about the way he had been treated.

The *Times* has learnt that they began to break down after Mr Blair mocked Mr Major in the Commons over a defeat on the Divorce Bill earlier this year, even though Mr Major had granted a free vote to Conservative MPs.

They came close to freezing point after the Dunblane tragedy with Mr Major accusing Mr Blair privately of breaking an agreement not to highlight the Dunblane issue during the party conference season. And when asked for his opinion of the Labour leader on a visit to the Commons tea-room, Mr Major is reported to have replied that he reminded him of Elmer Gantry.

Mr Blair is expected to receive a further boost after his soaring opinion poll ratings today when his party is expected to back his modernising draft manifesto by a ratio of nine to one.

It is understood that more than half of Labour members took part in the vote, many more than were expected to a few weeks ago, and Mr Blair will hail the result as an unhesitating endorsement of the aims and objectives of new Labour.

In his *Times* article, Mr Blair describes the document as "our covenant with the British people and our covenant with ourselves" which affirms the belief that it is possible to forge a new political programme by stripping away outworn ideology and applying traditional values in a modern way.

He insists that the document was not just about accommodating the thinking of the Right, but a recognition "that we have entered a new phase of political debate and development".

Mr Blair and his deputy, John Prescott, had to make strong last-minute appeals to members to vote on the document, but even so, the leadership will point out that the vote was higher than that in the ballot on Clause 4 of Labour's constitution.

The quality of life people enjoy is not determined only by the wage packet, but by whether their children can play safely

— Tony Blair on page 22

have endured pain through divorce or separation."

He says, however, that government can help to create a decent, well-ordered and stable society for today, a modern view of citizenship, and he spells out Labour's plan for tackling the "fractured society" identified by Frances Lawrence, whose headmaster husband Philip was stabbed to death outside his London comprehensive school last year.

Mr Blair makes plain that under Labour every department would review its policies to see how they promoted strong families. "We know the stronger the family, the better a child's life chances," he says.

Last week's MORI poll for *The Times* found that Labour had taken a clear lead over the Conservatives in the revived public debate on morality after Mrs Lawrence called for a crusade against violence in society. The findings confirmed ministers in their view that they should concentrate campaigning resources on the economy, a conclusion described by Mr Blair today as extraordinary. He says: "Two weeks ago the fractured society was to be the



Daniel Visnik, a diver with the archaeological team, holds the stone head of a queen of the Ptolemaic dynasty

Cleopatra's playground revealed

FROM MICHAEL MURPHY IN ALEXANDRIA

M Goddio, 49, Director of the European Institute of Marine Archaeology in Paris, whose team of 16 professional divers and archaeologists has made more than 3,500 dives in the murky waters of Alexandria's Eastern Harbour, has produced staggeringly detailed evidence for the plan of the "royal city" which has long puzzled historians.

Today the easternmost of the twin harbours of Alexandria is a placid and featureless stretch of water, bounded to east and west by a military strongpoint and the high rise blocks of flats of the former Turkish quarter, and to the south by the coastal road.

But M Goddio and his team, backed by the Egyptian Supreme Council for Antiquities and financed by the Hilli Foundation of Liechtenstein, has used the most up-to-date technology including satellite measuring to pinpoint the tumbled stones and architectural features about 20h below the present surface. Many finds such as columns, statues, enormous blocks of gran-

BT pledge of shares windfall

BRITISH TELECOM'S 2.4 million shareholders can look forward to a 35p a share windfall as a result of the company's \$20 billion takeover of MCI, America's second biggest long-distance telephone carrier. The agreement, confirmed yesterday, would be the biggest transatlantic deal.

The special dividend will cost BT £2.3 billion but should help ensure shareholder support for the deal. Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of BT, said it will be paid next September, at the same time as the final dividend for this financial year. The final dividend has been boosted 6.2 per cent to 11.95p.

Biggest deal, page 52

Clinton's lead slips in polls

President Clinton's hopes of winning a resounding mandate that would silence his critics in tomorrow's election appeared to be slipping and the Republicans were growing confident of retaining Congress. There was little doubt Mr Clinton would be comfortably re-elected but polls suggested the race had tightened and he may not get 50 per cent of the vote. Page 14

Europe 'must aid Zaire refugees'

France called on the rest of Europe to prepare for intervention in eastern Zaire as Paris confirmed it was considering "humanitarian corridors" to help a million Hutu refugees to escape. "We are already pre-positioning supplies. But France cannot act alone," said Secretary of State for Aid. Page 15

Firework ban urged as two die

BY ADRIAN LEE

IAN LANG was last night under pressure from safety campaigners to introduce new laws banning giant fireworks after two deaths at weekend bonfire parties.

The president of the Board of Trade was already considering the need for stronger safety laws to be in force by next November after a 90 per cent increase in firework injuries over the past five years.

Campaigners demanded the ban on "super" fireworks, weighing up to 100lb, after a father died in front of his two sons in Daxford, Kent, when a Chinese firework intended for professional use only exploded in his face.

Mr Lang also faced calls for all those running public displays to be licensed and receive training after the death on Saturday of David Hattersley, a head teacher who was running a primary school event.

Critics said British firework laws were outdated and some Chinese fireworks available in Britain would be banned in their country of origin. According to the National Campaign for Firework Safety,

some weigh up to 100lb and are packed with explosives.

Labour called for a ban on mortar-type fireworks which were responsible for the deaths of Mr Hattersley in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, and Steve Timcke, in Kent.

A third man was injured by a firework at Marlborough, Wiltshire. Mortar fireworks are designed to be fired from a cardboard tube and shoot coloured lights into the air.

Children see deaths, page 3

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*Source: La Pire's Lottery World, The Worldwide Lottery Efficiency Study 1996, based on the top 30 lotteries worldwide ranked by gov. profit.

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'We are talking different markets. For America the full-length pose has wit and class'

Barefoot Duchess toned down for British readers

By Emma Wilkins and Carol Midgley

THE Duchess of York's toes, famously caressed by her friend John Bryan on a French sun terrace four years ago, are to be banished from the front cover of the British edition of her new autobiography. While the American editions will sport a full-length picture of a demure-looking, barefooted Duchess, British readers will be restricted to a portrait of her head.

The Duchess and her publishers deemed the toes unsuitable for Britain, where the public will no doubt recall them being splashed over seven pages of the *Daily Mirror* in August 1992. The paparazzi Daniel Angeli hid in bushes to take several photographs of a near-naked Duchess with her former lover. "It was always the plan to have a more sober cover for

the British edition," said Carolyn Reidy, president and publisher of Simon & Schuster's trade division. "We are talking about different markets and for the American one the full-length pose has both wit and class." More than 400,000 copies of *My Story* are being printed in America. The original print run of 350,000 has been increased after extra orders from bookshops and the British serial rights have already been sold to *Hello!* magazine for more than £100,000. The book's apparent popularity will be welcome news to the Duchess who, it was revealed yesterday, is appearing in an advertisement for a Japanese camera in an effort to relieve her estimated £4 million debts. She was paid £20,000 to pose for a photo-



The Duchess of York as she features in the camera advertisement — a first for a member of the Royal Family

graph in front of the Statue of Liberty holding an Olympus, making her the first British royal to appear in an advertisement. Olympus had originally wanted to use the model Naomi Campbell but called on the Duchess when negotiations fell through. The campaign will be launched next week in Austria. In English, the wording on the poster states: "Fergie snaps the best example of steadfastness with her Olympus digital camera." In German, however, one word makes an allusion to her recent friendship with the Austrian tennis star Thomas Muster. The German word for "best example" is "Musterbeispiel".

Gunther Vetter, head of Olympus's Austrian consumer products division, said: "The idea is that the human perseverance in question may be taken to refer either to the statue or to Thomas Muster, the Duchess's idea of a real good man." According to Herr Vetter, the Duchess has asked the company to consider her for future promotions. She also asked if she could keep the

cashmere coat which she wears in the photograph, a request that was declined. Eventually she bought the coat for £1,500. "We would have had to pay Naomi Campbell a lot more than £20,000 and the Duchess originally wanted more, too," Herr Vetter said. "Of course the gossip and the scandals don't bother us at all. It means more people will look at the adverts." The Duchess's book will be published in America and Britain simultaneously on November 13. Ms Reidy insisted that the Duchess had not been tempted to "spice it up", despite the publication of books on her by her former psychic and by Allan Starkie.

Mr Bryan's friend and business partner, the Duchess's office also said she would honour her promise to the Queen not to embarrass members of the Royal Family. "She is bound by agreements with the Royal Family not to do one of those kiss and tell books, but her autobiography is not boring," a spokeswoman said.

Tunnel of love fails to keep toads off the road

By Nick Nuttall

WHY did the toad cross the road? Because a specially built tunnel under the traffic was simply too cold for a determined amphibian in search of its mate, scientists have found.

A study of a tunnel built under the A512 near Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, to help toads to cross from hibernating areas to breeding grounds, has found that they are avoiding it because its diameter is half the recommended one metre, keeping out warm air. Professor Robert Oldham of De Montfort University, in a report to Leicestershire County Council, said: "The air is not circulating. The toads are not prepared to go into what they think are winter conditions." He suggests a fan or small heater. Professor Oldham has now been given a grant from the British Ecological Society to study how the failure of the tunnel is affecting local toad populations. He is to radiograph some of the toads to study their fates.

Locals planned collection to block home for patients

By KATHERIN KNIGHT

NEIGHBOURS of a couple who bought a £250,000 house apparently to prevent it becoming a home for people with learning difficulties had planned a collection to fund the purchase if there was no alternative. Martin Burr and his wife Beverley are said to have stepped in to buy *Kingsdown*, a six-bedroom property opposite their own detached home in Mersham, Surrey, after hearing it was to be sold to a housing association. It was unclear last night whether they had been aided by funding from some of their neighbours, which had been discussed. Occupants of the street, Rockshaw Road, include a circuit judge and a Conservative councillor. Richard Bull, former owner of *Kingsdown*, said one of his neighbours had told him that the residents would stop at nothing to prevent the deal with the housing association from going through. Fifty neighbours attended a meeting with the local health trust to discuss the proposal, although he said he and his wife had not been invited. "All hell broke loose when the housing association contacted them as the sale was

about to go through, and there was talk of a number of my neighbours putting the money up but whether that is the case or whether people have simply guaranteed the purchaser will not lose out on the deal I simply don't know. All I can say is that we were extremely close to clinching the sale with the housing association when all this blew up." Mr Burr, who owns a tiling company, said the details of the purchase were "of no concern" to anyone else and refused to comment further. Don Margolis, chief executive of East Surrey NHS Priority Health Care Trust, said he was disappointed by the residents' reaction. "Having met the residents, the question is now would we want to put people who are fairly vulnerable into that kind of environment?" The Metropolitan Housing Association uses health authority funds to buy private homes to resettle people with mental disabilities in the community. Michael Ormerod, leader of the Reigate and Banstead Labour Group, said he had been assured that patients, from Royal Earlswood Hospital, to Redhill, were not dangerous.



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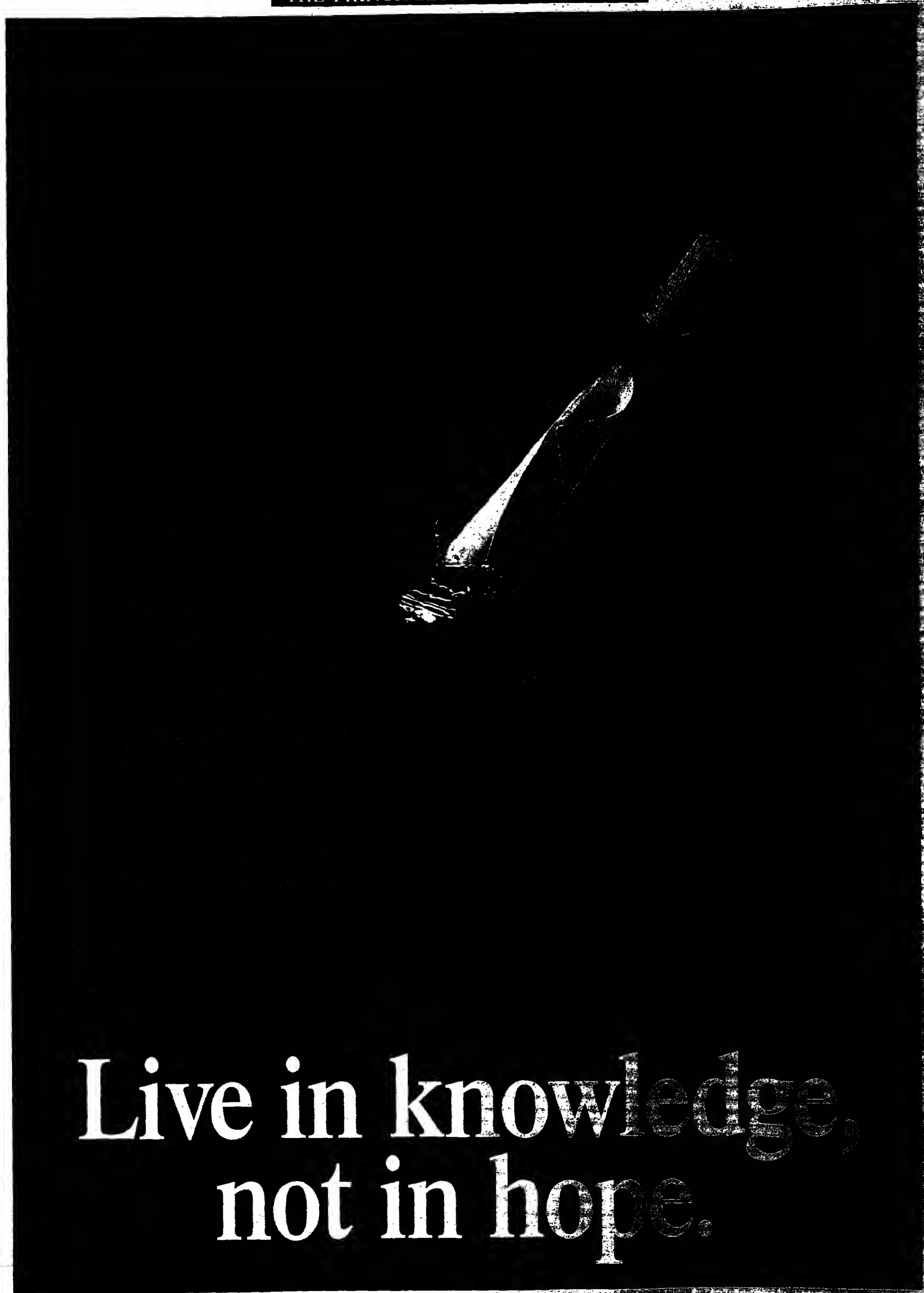
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HRT study will follow fortunes of 30,000 women

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A TRIAL, designed to answer the questions about hormone replacement therapy, taken by one in three British women in their 50s, begins today.

The international trial, which will last 25 years and cost £16 million, aims to establish how HRT affects the risks of developing a range of diseases, including breast cancer, osteoporosis and heart disease and stroke, as well as measuring the quality of life and well-being of those being treated.

More than 30,000 women between the ages of 50 and 64 are to be recruited for the trial, called Wisdom. Women's International Study of long Duration Oestrogen after Menopause - which will be co-ordinated by the Medical Research Council's Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit in London. The cost is being shared between the council, the Department of Health and the British Heart Foundation. The majority of the women, some 18,000, are expected to

come from Britain, with the rest from other countries which have expressed an interest, including France, Germany, Australia, Ireland, The Netherlands and South Africa. Volunteers will be split into two groups, with half given HRT and the other half inactive pills that look the same. Treatment will be given for ten years and patients followed up for a further ten years. The first results, on the effects of HRT on the incidence of heart disease and stroke, are expected in 2012.

HRT is now a very common therapy prescribed to women who have reached the menopause. But the treatment, which involves replacing hormones no longer produced by the ovaries, has not been the subject of a major trial. The co-ordinator of Wisdom, Dr Madge Vickers, said: "We are optimistic it will yield some extremely valuable answers to a host of questions about the implications of HRT for women's health."

The scientific evidence on HRT is, so far, broadly reassuring. Women seldom develop heart disease before the menopause, a benefit generally attributed to circulating levels of hormones. Maintaining those levels with HRT should cut the risk in older women, an effect confirmed by smaller trials.

HRT also appears to reduce the risk of the bone-thinning disease osteoporosis and, according to the most recent studies, delays the onset of Alzheimer's disease. A recent five-year study by doctors in Los Angeles estimated that women on HRT gained on average a five-year delay in Alzheimer's symptoms.

On the debit side, there is evidence of a small increase in the risks of breast cancer and of blood clots in the legs. A study published last month in *The Lancet* showed that this risk was small - an average of two cases a year for every 10,000 women on HRT.

Commenting on that finding, two Dutch doctors, Jan Vandenbroucke and Frans Helmerhorst from Leiden University, said that it was a reminder that oestrogen replacement was a therapy with side effects, albeit rare. "Prescribing for purely preventive purposes, without clinical indications, should be underpinned by strong evidence of benefit," they wrote in *The Lancet*.

The new trial, assuming it can recruit enough women, should be able to answer such questions. A large number are needed because the effects to be measured are small. HRT has been sold strongly by its proponents as a miracle cure for the effects of the menopause. That means that a lot of women are strongly motivated to opt for it as soon as "menopausal" symptoms begin. It may not be easy to persuade women who have visited their doctors already convinced that HRT will transform their lives to enter a trial in which they could find themselves spending ten years taking a placebo instead.



Frances Lawrence with Mandela, the family cat, and some of the letters of support. She will reply to them all

Headmaster's widow overwhelmed by support for manifesto of moral values

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

THE widow of murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence said yesterday that she had been overwhelmed by the public's "energetic and imaginative" response to her manifesto to rid society of violence and restore civic values.

Frances Lawrence said: "I hoped my words might find an echo but I never imagined they would provoke a response on such a scale. I have been touched by the kind words and strengthened by the support expressed." Mr Lawrence was stabbed outside his school, St George's in Maida Vale, west London, last December.

Since *The Times* published Mrs Lawrence's manifesto, designed to keep her husband's own values alive and to tackle juvenile violence, politicians have taken up several of her proposals, including a ban on combat knives and an emphasis on teaching children citizenship. Letters and suggestions of support arrive daily.

"When I published my manifesto I was offering only tentative, personal thoughts which I hoped might stimulate others into action," Mrs Lawrence said. "I have been heartened to see how energetically and imaginatively others have risen to the challenge which confronts us all to tackle the causes of violence and heal our

fractured society. I hope soon to be able to deliver a considered response to the contributions of others and further thoughts about where we go from here." Of the hundreds of people who have written to her, she said: "It will take me some time to read all the letters I have been sent. I am determined to respond to every letter but I hope those who have written will understand that I cannot reply to everybody as quickly as I would wish."

Next month politicians, churchmen and school pupils will be invited to the unveiling of a memorial to commemorate the anniversary of Mr Lawrence's death.

New anti-ulcer drug brings NHS relief



HUNDREDS of doctors who specialise in the diseases of the digestive tract have gathered in Paris this week for their annual meeting. One small advance in the treatment of indigestion will be as welcome to Treasury officials as it is to the sufferers and their doctors. Knoll, which bought Boots Pharmaceutical last year, has introduced Proton pump inhibitors, a new anti-ulcer drug which is appreciably cheaper than others of its type.

The cost to the NHS of gastro-intestinal diseases is £1.1 billion a year of this, £360 million is spent on indigestion medicines of one sort or another. Forty years ago, a bottle of medicine for indigestion cost at most a penny or two. The doctor took a liberal portion of one of the white antacid powders then available, mixed it with water, told the patient to take it three times a day and hoped for the best. Short of surgery, this was about all medicine had to offer to relieve the crippling pains which could be caused by peptic ulceration or the spilling of the

stomach contents into the lower end of the gullet.

There have been great advances in the treatment of peptic ulceration. H2 receptor antagonists, such as Tagamet, Zantac and other similar preparations have revolutionised treatment. More recently, proton pump inhibitors, such as Losec and Zoton, have been introduced and are even more efficient.

The cost, however, of ensuring that the nation's sufferers from indigestion do not have their nights ravaged by acute abdominal pain has risen sharply. The white medicine my patients were given in Norfolk during the 1950s has now, if the patients are wise and the doctors generous with funds, been replaced by Losec. But the cost to the NHS of this mighty tablet is £35 to £45 a month. Proton will cost £29.76 a month. Indigestion is a major cost to the NHS - doctors are consulted about it more than 14 million times a year.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

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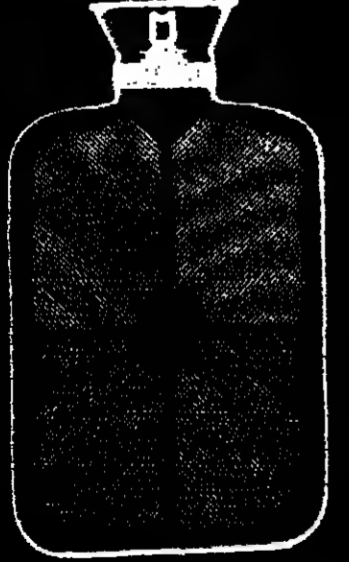
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Election candidates lower the Union flag as they promise to widen gap with London and Brussels

Independent isle nails three-legged colours to the mast

REPORTS BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

ON THE windswept island where the parliamentary system began over 1,000 years ago, a general election campaign is under way that will return a Government committed to loosening ties with Westminster and Brussels.

Voters on the Isle of Man can choose between 47 candidates for the 24 seats in the House of Keys. As betts so fiercely independent a people, almost all the candidates are standing as independents. The difference between them is reflected by the extent they each want to sever the links that bind the ancient Crown dependency to Britain.

Although only half the 71,000 residents were born on the island, the sense of national identity and self-confidence is keeping pace with the boom that has transformed the tax haven's economy over the past decade. With the mushrooming of financial service industries has come skilled jobs. Instead of the most gifted young people leaving the island to work abroad, they can now look forward to a career at home. This young, well-educated and articulate group are pushing the politicians to loosen the ties.

Although the large majority of Manx people remain loyal



Gelling favourite for post of Chief Minister

to the Queen, they prefer to call her Lord of Mann. Flagpoles put up to fly Union flags now flaunt the red banner of Manx with its three-legged emblem. The Manx language, almost extinct a decade ago, is an optional extra at all schools and 1,500 children are starting to learn it every year.

Pride in the Isle of Man is typified by Donald Gelling, 58, Treasury Minister since 1989 and hot favourite to take over as Chief Minister after the election. He has cut taxation, doubled public spending and built up reserves from £6

million to £110 million. He carries a British passport but is proud of the stamp that says he cannot live and work in the EU, as the Isle of Man is not part of it.

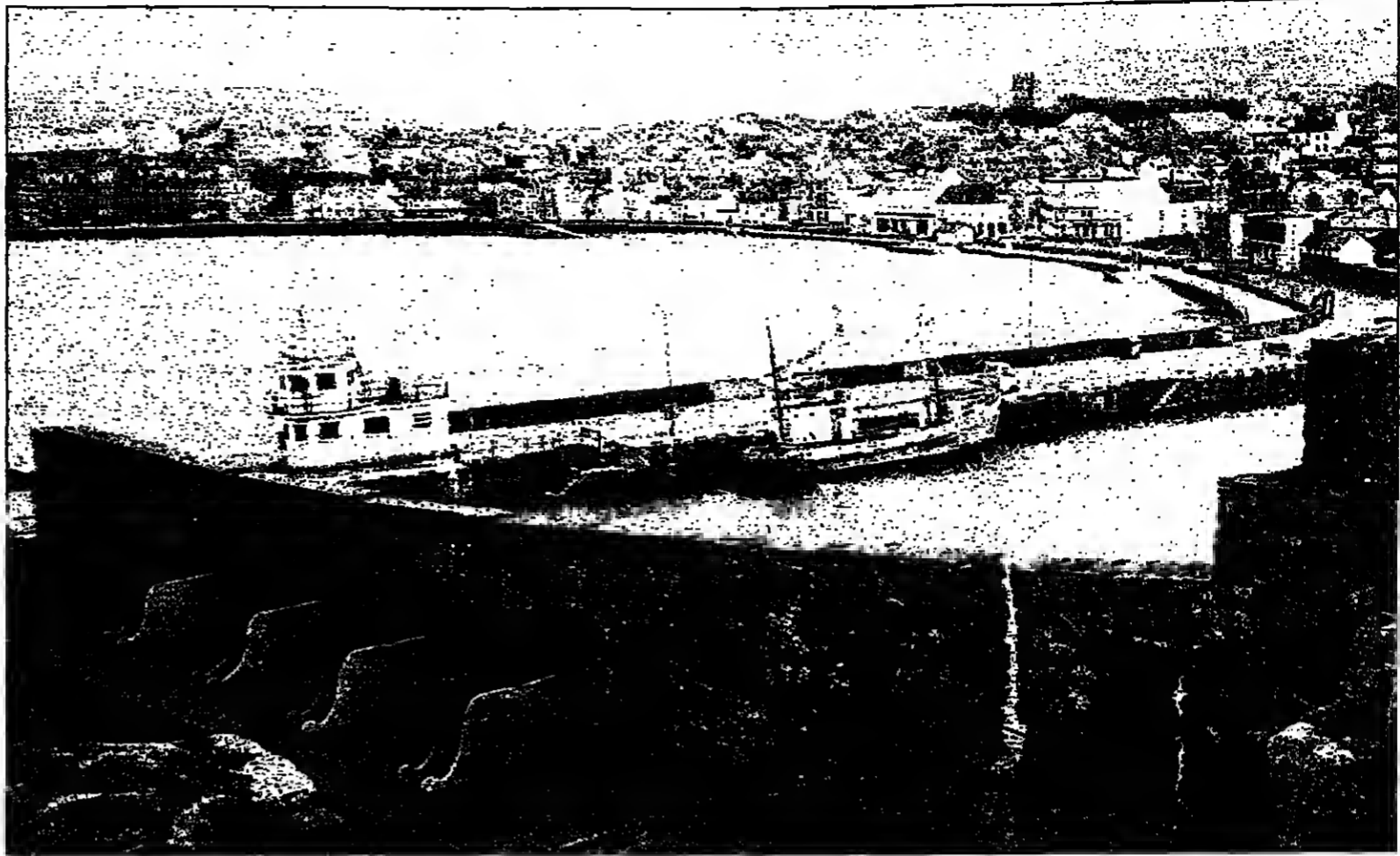
Mr Gelling was outraged by last week's attack on the island's tax haven status by George Foulkes, the Labour overseas development spokesman. "They just don't understand how this economy works," he said. "If they took our right to control our taxes away we would end up in poverty."

As Chief Minister, he would keep the island on its steady, increasingly independent course. Links with Britain he sees as a kind of necessary evil to give island goods a backdoor entrance to European markets.

The outgoing Chief Minister, Miles Walker, 55, is stepping down after ten years in charge. He hopes to hold his seat and promises he will have more time for his constituents. "As an independent I can represent my community and I am not forced to vote with a party. That is what makes our democracy so much better than Westminster's."

David Cretney, 43, leader of the Manx Labour Party — it is not affiliated to the UK Labour Party — and junior Tourism Minister, is just back from a meeting of the International Motorcycle Federation in Bangkok, where he successfully argued against a move to ban the island's TT races on the ground that the course is too dangerous. Mr Cretney, who crashed at nearly 90mph on his Honda three years ago in the amateur race, said: "This is the finest motorcycle event in the world and we don't want outsiders interfering with the way we run it."

He does not like Brussels interfering with the way the economy is run, either. Although not a member of the EU, the island has an agreement with the UK to levy the same VAT rates. "The UK sets its rates according to EU



The old world charm of Peel harbour, on the Isle of Man's west coast, contrasts with the boom in high-tech and financial service industries

THE ISLE OF MAN

THE Isle of Man has a special relationship with the European Union, allowing it free movement of goods and access to European markets through the UK. But the island makes no financial contribution to, nor receives money from, EU funds.

It has Europe's first and only free port — a 20-acre site by the main airport at Ronaldsway where manufacturers can import raw materials and export finished goods without paying any customs fees or taxes.

The standard rate of income tax is 15 per cent, charged on the first £9,000 income of a single person or £18,000 of a married couple. All income above that level is charged at 20 per cent.

There are no death duties, capital transfer or gift taxes, capital gains tax or wealth tax. Unemployment is 3.5 per cent. Over 82 per cent of the island is used for agriculture, with 32,000 cattle, 154,000 sheep, 5,000 pigs and 57,000 poultry. Beef exports



are banned by the EU, although the island had just 12 cases of BSE this year. Records show Tynwald, the island's Parliament, has been meeting since AD979 and claims to be the oldest legislature in the world in continuous existence. It makes its own fiscal and social policies but external issues are administered on the island's behalf by the UK Government. The legislature has two parts: the House of Keys, which has 24 members elected every five years; and the 11-member Legislative Council, eight of whom are elected by the House.

'Stop overs' bank on a better future

JOE CALLAGHAN is ten months old and has his own offshore bank account. His father, Steve, 33, does not qualify yet but is delighted he moved his young family to the Isle of Man, where every baby born is entitled to one.

Steve, a computer expert, is what islanders call a "stop over", an immigrant who came to work and stayed to live. He arrived three years ago with his wife Andrea, 31, daughter Samantha, now 6, and son Jack, 3.

"I was attracted by the quality of life," he says. "There is a good education system, the health service works well and it is safe for the kids to play on the street. On top of that the scenery is wonderful."

Steve hopes he has found a safe job in financial services with a much better future than he had in Britain. "The natives are quite friendly and accept you, especially after you buy your own house and show you

are ready to stay," he says. In two years he will qualify for a permanent work permit. Then he intends to open his own offshore account.

Stuart Mason, 29, another computer expert, is what the Manx call a "come over" — someone on a short contract who will return to Britain. "Underneath you can tell they prefer people who come here to work who are prepared to show long-term commitment to the place," he says.

A further category is the "dragged overs", the spouses of Manx-born people persuaded by their partner to settle on the island.

These new categories of immigrants are outnumbering the dying breed of what are known locally as "when I's", the ex-colonials who used to retire to the island from foreign postings and were famous for beginning every sentence with "When I was in..."



Cretney has been fighting a move to ban the TT races on the ground that they are too dangerous

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arrangements. If you alter them, you get nailed with charges.

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If you'd like to know more about the Virgin Personal Pension, do give us a call. Tell us how much you want to tuck away each month. We'll send you a personalised information pack that will tell you everything you need to know.

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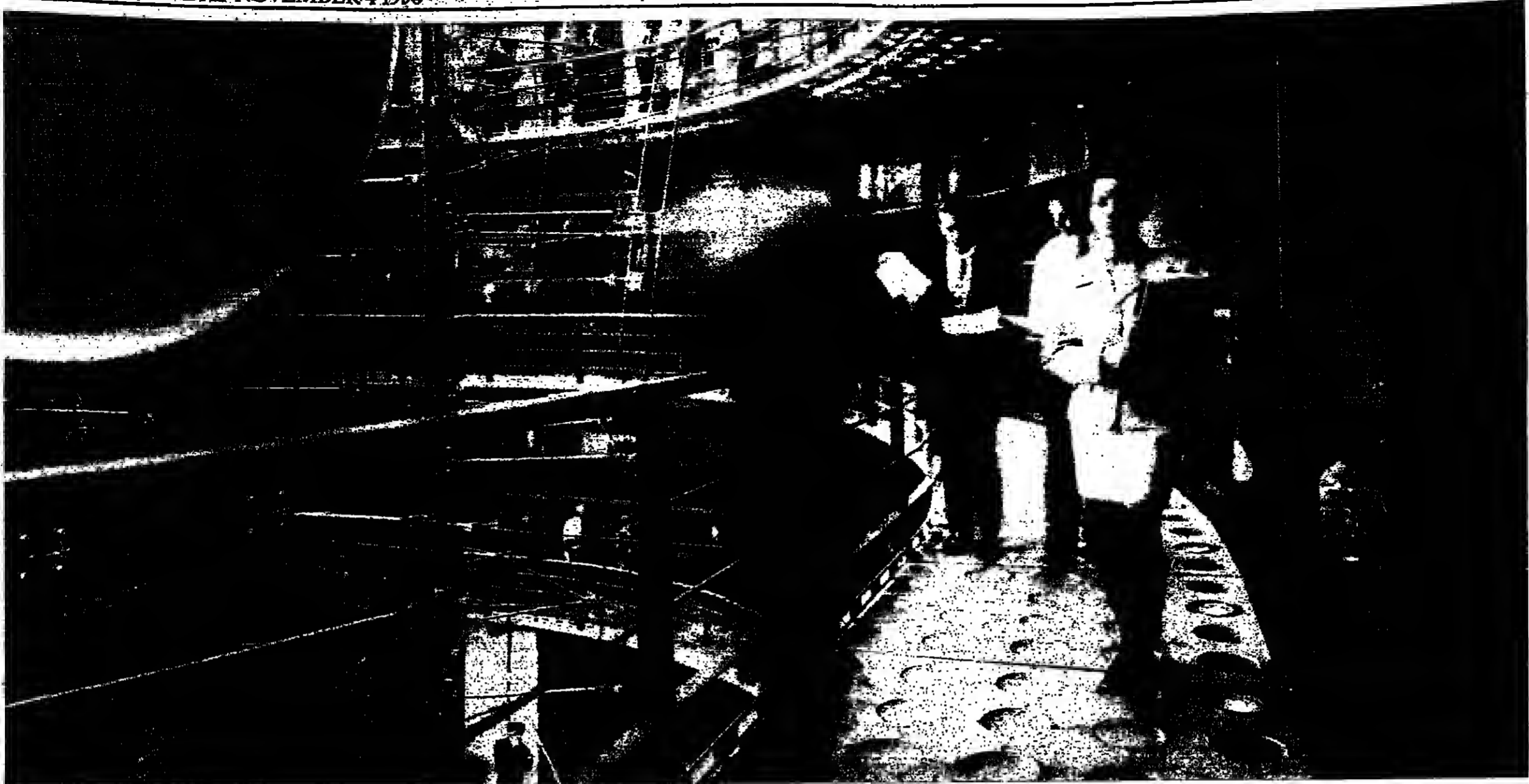
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Rifkind tells Israel all settlements on Arab land 'illegal'

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN HEBRON

MALCOLM RIFKIND yesterday sent a blunt message to Israel by reaffirming that Britain believes all Israeli settlements in the occupied territories to be illegal. The Foreign Secretary also restated the importance to the entire Middle East peace process of a resolution of the settlement problem.

Peace team general sacked by Netanyahu

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

STRAINS between Israel's right-wing Government and the military leadership intensified yesterday after Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, removed the general in charge of the negotiating team with the Palestinians because a newspaper exposed his secret contacts with leaders of the defeated Labour Party.

Jerusalem: The Queen has invited President Weizman to make a state visit to Britain, the first since the creation of Israel in 1948, officials said. David Levy, the Israeli Foreign Minister, announced the invitation after talks with Malcolm Rifkind. (AFP)

The Foreign Secretary was at pains to emphasise that Britain, France and other European countries spoke with one voice over the settlements. "We are all seeking success in the peace process," he said, adding that a Palestinian state could not be excluded. "It is an option which must be available."

But, he said, only the Palestinians and the Israelis could determine the success or failure of the peace process. Without Hebron, the peace process was rhetoric, he said. "With Hebron, it begins to look real."

Mr Rifkind was forced by Israeli security to travel in an

armoured limousine instead of the British Embassy Range Rover. The security fears were quickly justified when youths on the outskirts of Hebron threw a large rock at the accompanying press bus. A window was smashed but nobody was hurt.

Earlier, Mr Rifkind spoke of the "grave concern" in Britain and the international community over the faltering peace process, and gave Israel a clear warning that it still had much to do in order to regain trust and rebuild confidence after the deterioration that had marked recent months.

Speaking after a meeting with David Levy, the Israeli Foreign Minister, he said that he believed peace would only come to the region if Israel and the Palestinians and Israel and her Arab neighbours negotiated directly. "The proper role of the international community is to assist all those who are genuinely working for peace."

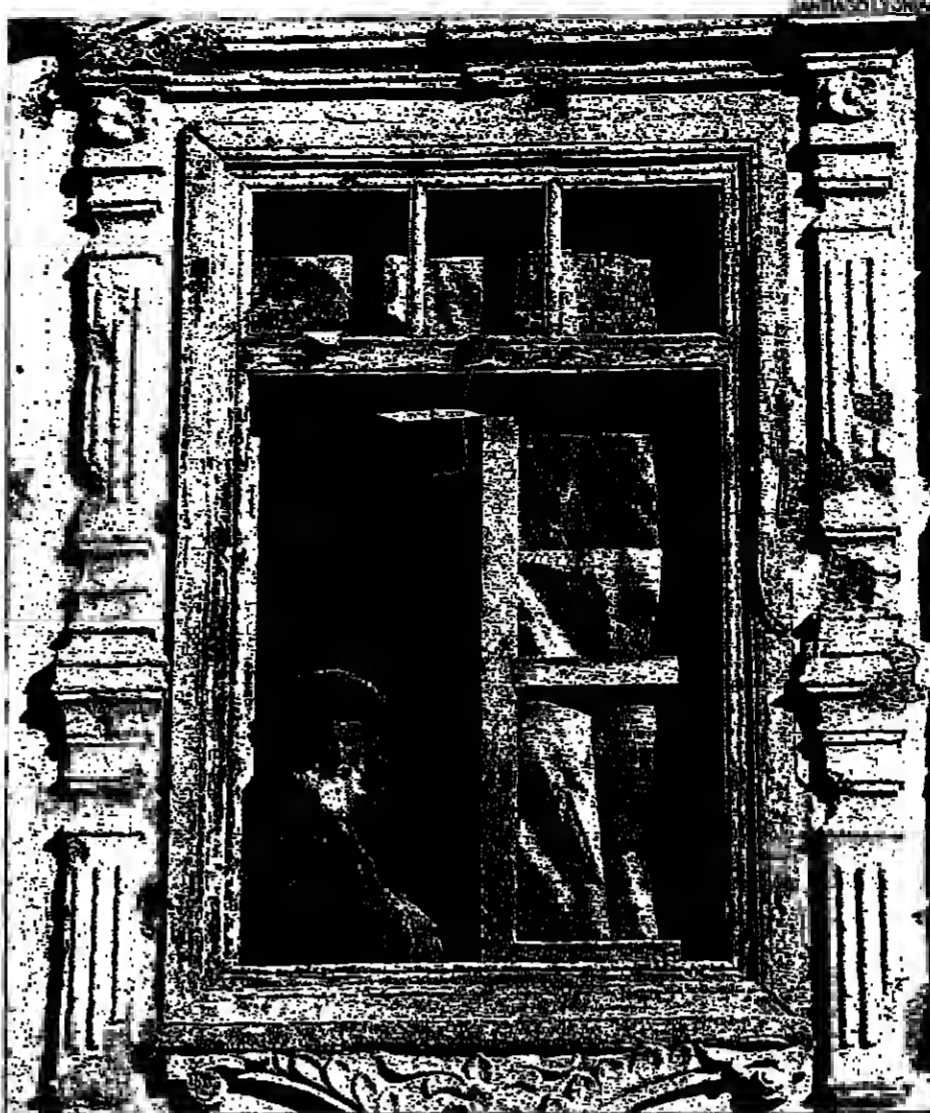
He also said "words must be matched by deeds", adding that there was a real prospect of agreement on Hebron, but this should not be a final step "but the beginning of what could be a renaissance of the peace process".

The Foreign Secretary made clear that Britain saw it as essential for the Israeli Government to move on to the rest of the interim agreement and final status talks with the Palestinians.

The Foreign Secretary said he was deeply concerned by the severe economic problems the Palestinians were facing, and urged Israel to do more to speed aid to the Palestinians by way of granting free passage and co-operating with international organisations. His call followed criticism last week by Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Overseas Development Minister, that Israel had unnecessarily held up the work of the United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency.

Mr Rifkind also visited Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, and President Weizman. He was later meeting Yasser Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority.

Leading article, page 23



A man sits in morning sunshine at a bomb-damaged school in Kabul

Iraq rejects American claim of missile attack in 'no-fly' zone

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

IRAQ yesterday denied a White House statement that a US warplane enforcing a "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq had fired a missile at one of its radar sites. It said no incident of any kind had taken place and the "false news" was designed to boost President Clinton's re-election chances. An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman also insisted Iraq was still committed to a decision it made in September not to fire at American, British and French warplanes patrolling northern and southern Iraq, although he repeated Baghdad's long-standing position that the "no-fly" zones were illegal.

The Iraqi assurances suggested that President Saddam Hussein was not about to engage in eleven-hour military brinkmanship with President Clinton before tomorrow's elections, although Iraqi challenges in the future are inevitable, diplomats said. State-run Iraqi newspapers yesterday continued to fume at last week's US-brokered ceasefire between Iraq's two main Kurdish factions, predicting it would fail.

Iraq has not challenged American warplanes since September, when the United States attacked southern Iraq with cruise missiles and extended the southern "no-fly" zone to punish Baghdad for sending forces into a Kurdish "safe" area. Iraq at first defied the move by vowing to shoot down allied planes. The Pentagon insisted that an American F16 warplane had fired a missile at an Iraqi radar installation. The F16's pilot had fired the missile because he believed the radar had locked on to his plane while he was patrolling the zone over southern Iraq, the Pentagon added.

Afghan allies to target Taliban strongholds

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN SHERBERGHAN, AFGHANISTAN

FORCES loyal to the former Afghan Government are preparing to bring the war into Taliban bastions across the country in an attempt to break the six-week deadlock in the siege of Kabul.

General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the ruler of Afghanistan's northern mini-state, is infiltrating arms and men into the countryside around the western city of Herat, which was captured by the Taliban militia last year.

Abdul Karim Khalili, the leader of an ethnic army of Shia Muslims that has joined General Ahmed Shah Massoud, the ousted Defence Minister, is preparing to open up a third front in the west of Kabul in an effort to weaken Taliban's grip on the city.

Six of General Dostum's MIG23 fighters have been seen at Mazar-i-Sharif airbase armed with air-to-air missiles, provoking speculation that they are preparing to take on Taliban warplanes in the air and even bomb the Taliban capital of Kandahar in the south of the country. However, despite a colossal bombardment by the combined forces of General Massoud and General Dostum, the Taliban Sunni Muslim militia has retained control of Kabul's strategic Dehshahr Pass in the northeast and the Khair Khana Pass to the northwest.

The Massoud-Dostum alliance inflicted two severe beatings on Taliban during the heavy fighting at the mouth of the Panjshir Valley and around Bagram airbase. Its forces have also captured vital territory on the two northern approaches to the city. But they have failed to dislodge the Taliban fighters from their stronghold in the hills. Opening a new front in Herat is intended to stretch Taliban forces to breaking point.

Ismael Khan, the former Governor, lost the city to Taliban largely because his fighters deserted when he failed to pay their wages. He is now anxious to take on Taliban and regain his power with General Dostum's backing. Taliban is hated in Herat, a Tajik city with close ties to Iran, where it has imposed the same brutal regime as exists

in Kabul. Local hostility is so great that Taliban has had to patrol the city in groups in an attempt to deter attacks from civilians.

Reports about the fighting in neighbouring Badkhis Province are confused. General Dostum's forces claim significant advances against Taliban. But French and South African journalists visiting a so-called safe area said they were fired on by Taliban warplanes.

General Dostum, whose portrait hangs over the gates of his home town of Sherberghan, is being courted by Pakistan, the paymaster of the Taliban insurrection. Islamabad wants him to make a pact with Mullah Muhammad Omah, the one-eyed leader of the Taliban militia. But so far General Massoud's alliance with General Dostum has held firm.

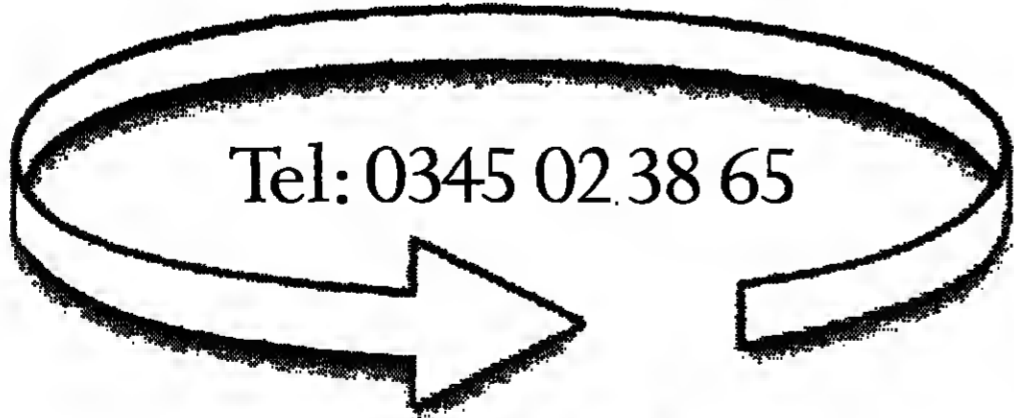
General Massoud's estimated 12,000 fighters are being paid \$4 (£2.50) a month with a bonus of \$4 every time they go into battle. The war is costing the general \$48,000 a month in wages alone. He cannot prosecute the war indefinitely without some foreign help.

General Dostum precipitated the downfall of President Najibullah, the former Moscow-backed leader, by switching sides to the Mujahidin in 1991. He has since swapped his general's uniform for a smart Western suit in an attempt to jettison his image as a pro-communist warlord. But General Dostum has changed sides many times and could easily do so again without warning.



Massoud: war wages cost him \$48,000 a month

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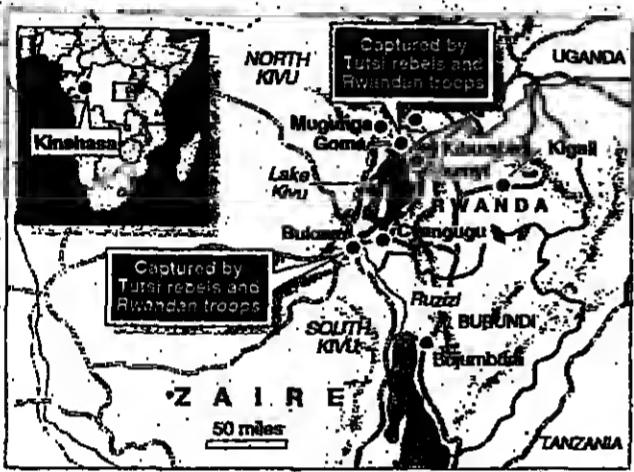
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Britain cool on plan to open Zaire safety zone for a million refugees

French press for intervention to save fleeing Hutus

By Ben Macintyre in Paris and Michael Evans

FRANCE yesterday called on the rest of Europe to prepare for intervention in eastern Zaire as Paris confirmed it was considering plans to open "humanitarian corridors" to help a million Hutu refugees to escape the ethnic fighting.



Although France and Britain have talked in the past of a possible joint peacekeeping effort for the African continent, London appeared to be reluctant to get involved in a humanitarian mission that involves deploying troops.



Rwandan Hutu refugees waiting for biscuits distributed by aid workers at Mugunga camp, west of Goma

While M. Emmanuelli emphasised the need for a combined European approach to the humanitarian crisis, one senior government adviser said that France should intervene alone.

Vengeance catches up with Rwandan genocide gangs

From Sam Kiley in Gisenyi on the Rwanda-Zaire border

A RWANDAN army border guard, on spotting journalists, became agitated. Bouncing at Kibumba camp in the valley, he yelled: "Get the way, get the way, we don't want the news."

Mobutu may have to leave Switzerland

From Peter Capella in Geneva

AS SEVERAL hundred thousand refugees crammed into a bay on Lake Kivu in Zaire yesterday, President Mobutu enjoyed a splendid view on a bright autumn day of the French Alps across Lake Geneva.

China picks Hong Kong kingmakers

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

CLOSELY supervised by senior Chinese officials, the Selection Committee was formed over the weekend in Peking to choose Hong Kong's first Chief Executive, who will succeed Chris Patten, the Governor, and the Provisional Legislative Council to replace the present wholly elected one on July 1, 1997.



These really are Marriott Leisure Break prices!

Advertisement for Marriott Leisure Breaks, listing various hotel locations and prices for different packages (e.g., £36 Dinner, Bed & Breakfast; £41 Dinner, Bed & Breakfast; £49 Dinner, Bed & Breakfast; £64 Dinner, Bed & Breakfast).

WORLD SUMMARY

Killed in Kashmir gunbattles

Srinagar: Fifteen people were killed and 25 hours burnt down during gunbattles between Muslim extremists and Indian troops in Kashmir at the weekend.

Cambodian deal for rebel faction

Phnom Penh: Breakaway Khmer Rouge commanders have agreed to merge their force of up to 4,000 fighters with Cambodian government forces on Wednesday, both sides said.

Nicaragua poll results delay

Miami: Two weeks after its national elections, Nicaragua still awaits the official results amid growing tension and fears of political instability.

Blow to Bhutto

Lahore: A Pakistani court reinstated the chief minister of Punjab, whose dismissal in September 1995 was recommended by Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister.

Advertisement for 'UNSECURED PERSONAL LOANS' featuring a 12.3% APR rate and a comparison table of loan options from various providers.

Presidential contenders criss-cross America in frenetic final round of campaigning

Clinton targets his appeal on voters' hearts, not minds

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN NEW ORLEANS

PRESIDENT CLINTON has told Americans from California to the Atlantic coast that he has been on the last weekend of the last campaign of his life.



Clinton: simple message

He last slept in his White House bed on Tuesday night: by the time the polls close, he will have visited 16 states, 18 cities and travelled 7,000 miles.

Internet of a few weeks ago. But in the course of each day he repeats only a handful of phrases and the local touch is unfailing.

Internet of a few weeks ago. But in the course of each day he repeats only a handful of phrases and the local touch is unfailing.

However, despite the effort, these flying visits in the last hours are a risky gamble: they drum up more support, but the massive organisation needed to receive his retinue will divert local volunteers' efforts away from the task of urging people to go to vote.

Peter Riddell, page 22

Dole comes out fighting in the Las Vegas ring

FROM TOM RHODES IN LAS VEGAS

IT WAS as if the neon lights, slot machines and early morning card sharps had given Bob Dole a sudden new energy.

In the face of extreme adversity and 41 hours into his round-the-clock four-day marathon campaign tour for the American presidency, the clean-shaven and freshly suited 73-year-old positively bounced onto the stage in the ballroom of the MGM Grand.

I will give you a little inside tip here in Las Vegas. Bet on Bob Dole

had been a single half hour "shower stop" in Detroit on Friday night.

Mr Dole talked of President Clinton's recent campaign finance scandals, of returning power to the states and the people, restoring honour to the military and the White House.

Liberated at last from the constraints of appearing as a Washington outsider, Mr Dole returned to the role he has always played best, that of legislative muckraker.

There was only one Bill I want to veto and that's Bill Clinton," he announced to roars from the crowd.

White House hopes of a landslide begin to crumble

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton's hopes of winning a resounding mandate that would silence his critics in tomorrow's election appeared to be slipping.

There was little doubt Mr Clinton would be comfortably re-elected, but polls suggested the race had tightened to the point where he might fail to achieve his personal goal of winning at least 50 per cent of the

vote. If that happened, Mr Clinton, who achieved only 43 per cent in 1992, would be the first President to win twice without majority support.

A Reuter poll put Mr Clinton less than four points ahead, though two other polls still gave him double-digit leads.

Gore's Tennessee — all states Mr Clinton carried in 1992.

The tight race came after a week in which the President was battered over his party's solicitation of campaign donations from Asians.

either way, eight for Republican-held seats and nine for Democratic ones, but the Democrats must win all but five to regain the Senate.

To recapture the House of Representatives the Democrats must gain 18 seats. A Washington Post survey identified 38 Republican districts which the Democrats have a 50 per cent chance of winning.

White House. The Christian Coalition yesterday distributed 45 million "voter guides".

The unknown factors are the length of Mr Clinton's coat-tails and whether Mr Dole's dim prospects will depress Republican turnout.

Arkansas image to get clean-up

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE new Governor of Arkansas wants to "rehabilitate the state's image" after the damage it has sustained during the Clinton presidency and the Whitewater affair.

The Governor's move was unusual, for home states of Presidents seldom initiate criticism of their famous sons.

Religious Right may thwart Kansas women's champion

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WICHITA, KANSAS

AT THE Prairie Dunes Country Club, a genteel encampment of golf course and tennis courts surrounded by acres of prairie scrub, the mood is conciliatory.

At her side, Roonie Sellers interjects: "I'll probably vote for Bob Dole as President — it would be a real shame for him to lose Kansas at the end of his career.

It would add insult to injury if Mr Dole's Senate seat, the basis of his life-long political career, were to fall to a Democrat on the day he loses the race for the White House.

The battle, which has split Kansas Republicans, is also watched keenly across America.



ELECTION 96

traditional party divisions, or whether the far Right and religious Right have the weight to win elections.

In contrast Mrs Docking, a former stockbroker, is also forward socially moderate, economically conservative prescriptions.

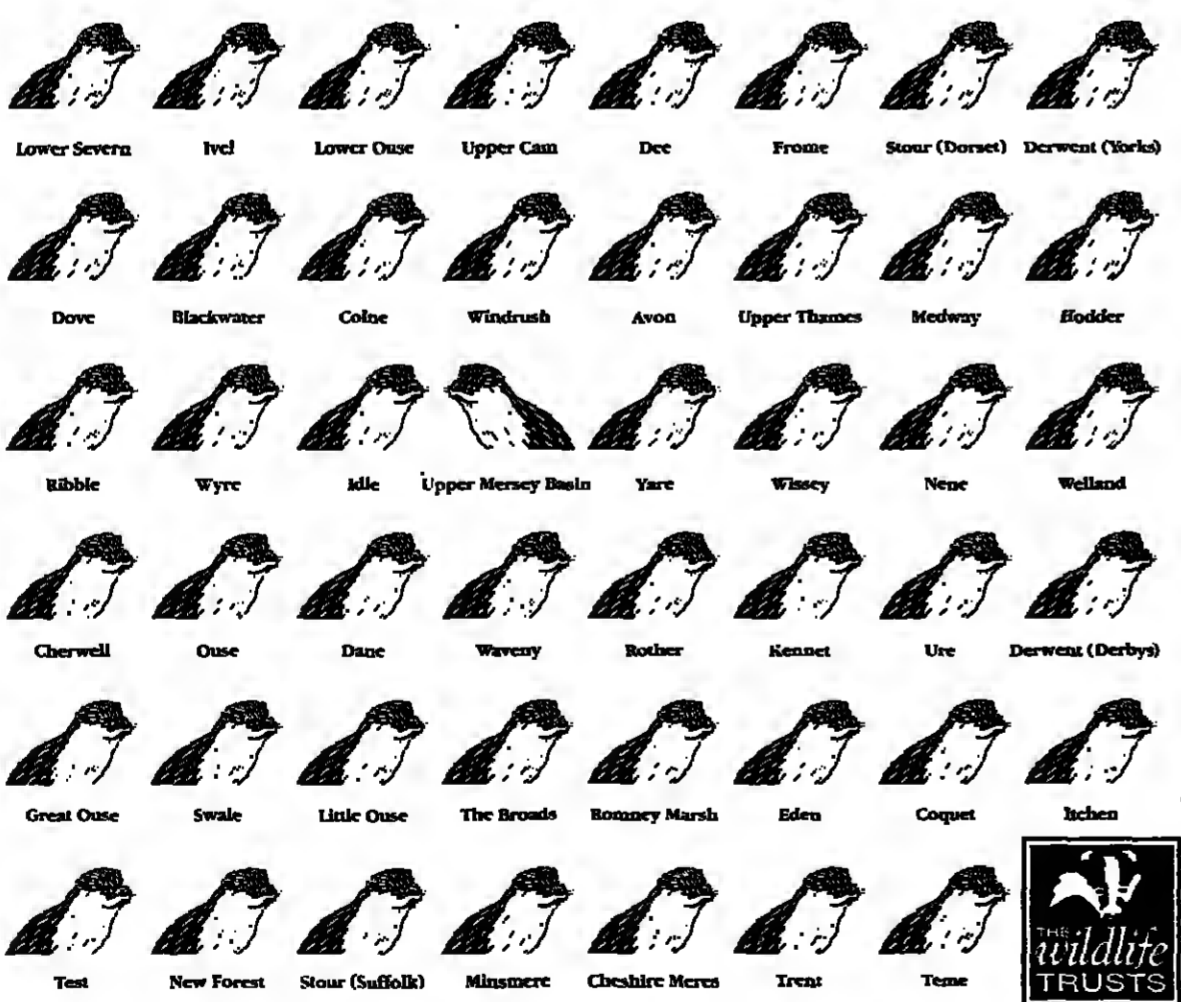
when he made tax-cutting the core of his election campaign — and criticises Mr Clinton for shifting "too far to the left" in the first two years of his presidency.

To win, "I need cross-over Republicans", she says. Many Republican women have been alienated by Mr Brownback's support for cuts in environmental programmes and education.

Mrs Docking is a formidable campaigner, warm and energetic. But she will have a tough fight. Mr Brownback, a young-looking 40, is also personable and fluent.

He also appears to have the advantage of more money. Above all, it is the influence of right-wing religious groups which may prove decisive.

Young otters desperately seeking new homes.



And they're banking on you for support.

A river without otters is like a summer without sunshine. Yet years of pollution, misuse, waste and neglect created a crisis for Britain's best loved mammal.

The Wildlife Trusts' Otters and Rivers Project has set out to correct this. By improving the habitat and water quality of our rivers and wetlands.

of the otters' plight, planning their protection and population expansion. By building new homes for young otters to move into and guarding them when there.

The project's plan is to restore the otter to its 1960 levels by the year 2010. This target is highly achievable but only with the right level of funding and volunteer support.

Please help bring back the otter. Give Britain's wetlands the future they deserve. After all, it's your future too.

Form for Wildlife Trusts donation and membership details, including fields for name, address, and contact information.

Cyberspace pranksters join the battle

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE 1996 election will go down in history as the first US presidential contest waged in cyberspace and may wreak profound changes on future campaigns.

With an estimated 12 per cent of the American electorate now able to gain access to the worldwide computer network, hundreds of sites have been set up to report on and ridicule the candidates.

Many hope the computer network will promote a more participatory democracy. Because of the low cost of the Internet, minor candidates can reach the same number of voters online as the main contenders.

dog. Voters might be surprised, however, if they try to contact the Clinton campaign on the obvious address of www.clinton96.org or the Dole organisation at www.dole96.org.

Both Internet addresses were bagged early in the game by pranksters and are devoted to mocking the respective candidates.

Most of the candidates' sites offer stodgy publicity photographs and recycled policy speeches, although Bob Dole's includes a crossword puzzle with clues including "the name of the candidate's

ultimate protest vote". There are pages devoted to Hillary Clinton's 320 known hairdos and the President's secret encounter with an extra-terrestrial. Ross Perot is the target of an online magazine.

Advertisement for car insurance with text: 'Paying over £250 for Car Insurance? Call 0900 69 41 21 ServiceLine'

TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SEASON OF SPORT

EUROPE'S MIGHTY QUINS

Jason Leonard and Harlequins lead the way into the Heineken Cup quarter-finals PAGE 37

Oliver Holt opens a series on a celebrated sporting city PAGE 35

Laura Davies is set to top golf's money lists on both sides of the Atlantic PAGE 28

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY NOVEMBER 4 1996



Despite the attentions of Vickers and Cox, the Middlesbrough defenders, Beardsley manages to steer the ball home for his, and Newcastle's, second goal yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Captain celebrates 700th appearance by taking Newcastle to top of Premiership

Beardsley retains lasting quality

Newcastle United 3
Middlesbrough 1
By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THERE still is magic born and bred on the Tyne. As Newcastle United regained the leadership of the FA Carling Premiership before 36,577 impassioned spectators yesterday evening, the story revolved not around the League

aged to spot the ballboy the instant he opened the scoring with a penalty, to rush to him, to pass from father to son the love engrained in the Geordie. Yes, that lucky ballboy, was Drew, his son. "I scored two on my 600th appearance as well, I wish these matches would come around more often," Beardsley said. "But it was a hell of a derby game, and you know that you have to win the battle first, then let football take over. Luckily, we overcame them."

ing at the composure of the players. This was the Tyne-Tees affair, and when two such rivers meet, you can expect turbulence. Indeed, such was the pride with which Middlesbrough crossed the county boundary, that the early ebb and flow was with them. Emerson appeared like a magnet to the midfield skirmishing. In the sixth minute, as he charged towards Batty, unconcerned about reputa-

tions, the Brazilian tried an inventive loop of the ball. Batty never saw it, the two collided with a force that you could almost feel in the stands. Emerson was first to his feet but, like a boxer with delayed concussion, suddenly his legs buckled, he fell and felt for blood in his left ear. Inevitably, Batty and Emerson were among the five bookings, but amid the fury, with Emerson the enduring fulcrum of the team in red,

there was also beauty. It came from the Brazilian as, breath-takingly, he managed to nutmeg Ferdinand while he was actually moving sideways. However, Emerson and Gary Willard, the referee, became the butt of crowd hostility after the player appeared to flatten Beardsley with an arm or an elbow off the ball. But Beardsley, too, has powers of recuperation. In the fourth minute, after Cox, another of those booked,

fouled Ginola, Beardsley took responsibility for the penalty. He had missed his last one, against Ferencvaros four days earlier; without a nerve end showing he smote this one high and straight past Walsh. The penalty created a small future, however. Cox admitted to his manager, Bryan Robson, that he "dived in" with the tackle, rather than attempt the customary excuse that Ginola dived to ground; the boot of the Middlesbrough back did,

admittedly, take the most willing leg in the Premiership. The pulsating exchanges had more than intemperance, more than guile and effort and beauty. It had sheer pantomime laced into it as well. In the 69th minute Juninho, who spent much of the game as a left winger being tracked by Gillespie, took on Albert. It was fleeting and farcical; the 5ft 5in Brazilian squaring up to the 6ft 3in Belgian. He must have addressed his anger round about waist-high to Albert and, therefore, could not have seen the huge grin on the Belgian's face. Almost in the same instance, the ball was cleared straight through the middle. Ferdinand flicked it on into space and, impishly and inevitably, Beardsley was homing in to score with an instant shot inside the far post. Six minutes later Beardsley was hunting his hat-trick, but Walsh denied him with a deflection over the bar. From the corner, the ball was only half-cleared and fell to Lee, who unleashed a shot of power that deflected into the net off Vickers. It took Newcastle's tally to 12 goals in their past three home games. "We never got round to the slick passing we are supposed to be about,"

Keegan said. "Physically, that is the hardest game we have had this season. Middlesbrough stand up to be counted, and we proved we can battle and be resilient." Likewise Middlesbrough. In the final flourishes they still refused to lie down. Juninho produced a shot that Srnicek somehow sliced his shot up against the crossbar, even though he was standing virtually beneath it. Three minutes

TOP OF TABLE table with columns for Team, P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts

of Nations players remarkably drawn into an area once destitute, but around Peter Beardsley, playing his 700th competitive club match in England. Beardsley captained Newcastle, the club he had supported as a boy. He scored, almost inevitably, the first two goals; he was almost decapitated off the ball by Middlesbrough's energetic Brazilian, Emerson; and, nearing his 30th birthday, still with enthusiasm to burn, Beardsley man-

Luck? What has that got to do with this tale? Beardsley's footballing career began more than 17 years ago in rejection: Gillingham and Cambridge United, for heaven's sake, thought this diminutive man would never have the tenacity for the game. His father, a long-distance lorry driver, kept insisting: "Don't worry Golden Feet, you'll make it." And, after a year and a half in industry, sweeping factory floors, Beardsley finally took over on the long adventure that neither he nor his manager, Kevin Keegan, see as even close to conclusion. When the man of the match said the battle had first to be won, he spoke with bruised reality. There was a high wind, and high temper, tug-



PETER BEARDSLEY 35, made his 700th senior appearance yesterday when Newcastle United played Middlesbrough. Newcastle-born, he played for Wallsend Boys Club before turning professional with Carlisle United in August 1979. In his 700 matches he has scored 235 goals and netted a goal or in two spells with Newcastle he has scored 114 goals. His moves have cost the club more than \$5 million. He has made 57 appearances for England, scoring nine goals and has won two championship medals (1989, 1990) and an FA Cup winners medal (1989) with Liverpool.

DETAILS OF A 17-YEAR CAREER table with columns for League, FA Cup, League cup, Other, Apps, Goals

Liverpool routed 29
Ferguson's woe 30
Law's legacy 32
Results and tables 33

from time, though, the Dane made amends. Ravanelli was, at that moment, standing idly over Ginola and, as they argued, Stamp — a home grown Teessider — produced the through ball for Beck to score. It deprived Newcastle of a clean sheet, but gave Middlesbrough a proper consolation. NEWCASTLE UNITED (S-S-S, P, Srnicek — D, Paucok, P, Albert, R, Elliott — K, Gillespie, W, Barton, Boman, D, Gary P, Beardsley, R, Lee, D, Ginola — F, Asprilla, L, Ferdinand) MIDDLESBROUGH (S-S-S-S, G, Watson — N, Cox, S, Wicks, D, Whyte, C, Fleming — P, Stamp, Emerson, R, Massimo — Juninho — M, Beck, F, Ravanelli. Referee: G, Willard

Advertisement for Jaeger-LeCoultre watches, featuring five different watch models and the text 'ANOTHER TIME. ANOTHER FACE. REVERSO DUO.' and 'JAEGER-LECOULTRE MANUFACTURE JAEGER-LECOULTRE S.A. CH-1547 LE SENTIER'.

FOOTBALL: HENDRY AND SUTTON COME OFF INJURY LIST TO INSPIRE BLACKBURN'S FIRST WIN OF SEASON

Liverpool blocked by Rovers' return



Hendry, left, a mighty force for Blackburn after coming back from injury, slides in to dispossess Berger during the 3-0 demolition of Liverpool at Ewood Park yesterday

Blackburn Rovers	3
Liverpool	0

By DAVID MILLER

THE boast that the FA Carling Premiership is the best league in the world was shown to be hollow long ago. Just occasionally, the claim seems credible again, as when Blackburn Rovers, rooted to the bottom of the table, handsomely outplayed one of the front-runners. What a blood-stirring surprise this was.

With the granite figure of Hendry back in central defence after an operation and the willowy Sutton returning to lead the attack, this is no covering remnant of a former champion team. Often denying Liverpool the time to think, let alone weave an attack, Blackburn played a brand of football at times superior to the functional days of Dalglish: the hit-the-flanks, meet-the-crosses regime of the Wilcox-Ripley and Shearer-Sutton partnerships.

Hendry made Liverpool's defence look anaemic by comparison, effectively putting Fowler in his pocket, though the young England forward had scant support. The consuming challenge of McKinlay, recruited from Dundee United, recalled the

dynamism of Billy Bremner. Sutton's skill on the ball, which was the cause of the penalty, after only three minutes, that sent Blackburn's spirits soaring, was constantly perplexing. His masterfully-headed goal, Blackburn's third, ten minutes into the second half, made certain of their first victory in 12 games.

Tony Parkes, their caretaker manager, has transformed morale, building new hope around a 4-5-1 formation. West Ham were all but defeated last week at Upton Park, and the same brand of tenacity reduced Liverpool's polished act to ragged disorganisation and hesitancy.

Yesterday, with Ewood Park full to the brim, Blackburn's midfield took Liverpool apart, exposing alarming uncertainty in the rearguard trio of Wright, Matteo and Babb. With Liverpool two down after half an hour and running scared, Roy Evans, their manager, was obliged to regroup his forces and his formation, from 3-5-2 to 4-4-2. To no avail.

Bjornebye, who had taken a knock early on, was replaced by Redknapp. Thomas switched from central midfield to the right flank to try to subdue Wilcox, while McManaman moved to the left flank and Redknapp partnered a bemused Barnes in the

centre. Evans must have been tempted to substitute Barnes, his captain, so tough was the treatment being imposed on him by the opposition.

For the 15 minutes after Redknapp's introduction, Liverpool prospered, constantly counter-attacking. They could not cut the lead. Blackburn held firm, and in the second half were seldom seriously threatened. So much of Liverpool's

game is built on one touch. Too often that was all they got.

"This could be the first game of the season for Blackburn," Parkes said. "Now it's onwards and upwards. It was the third goal that clinched it, because 2-1 could have been difficult for us. We wanted to force Liverpool to change [their tactics], but when they did it knocked us off guard temporarily."

Parkes said that he would not be putting his hat in the ring for the vacant job, and would not accept it if offered. "I'm quite competent, it's the third time I've been caretaker, but

they'll be looking for a big name," he said.

Evans was his usual dispassionate self. "A very poor team performance," he said. "We were careless, and you've got to realise you can't always pass the ball about, that you've got to clear your lines. We didn't chuck it [give up], but seldom looked like saving it. They made our passing game difficult."

They did indeed. Parkes reflected that the 4-5-1 formation that he had used for the past two matches has offered the players something different, a challenge to enjoy, and they have responded. The whistle had barely blown for the start before Liverpool found themselves in difficulty, so pressured that they were passing more backwards than forwards. With only three minutes gone Babb, in desperation, fouled Sutton, who, with hardly a glance behind him, picked up the ball and walked straight to the penalty spot while the referee was busy administering a yellow card.

With 12 minutes gone, McKinlay was booked for a foul on Berger, one of his many moments of excess, but hard as Liverpool tried to keep calm, they were being hustled into repeated errors. With a quarter of an hour gone, James missed a swirling cross

from Gallacher and Flitcroft headed wide. Liverpool were clearly groggy. They went two down after 22 minutes. A feeble, misjudged back-pass by Barnes put Babb in trouble. He failed to control the ball and was robbed by Flitcroft. Again Gallacher swung the ball over, James and Wright thought about going for the ball, did not, and Wilcox, coming in to meet it from the left, thumped it into the net.

Redknapp brought some semblance of co-ordination to Liverpool's ranks. Fowler sent a searing shot over the bar. Barnes, from an opening created by Redknapp, likewise shot too high. Berger went close with a low one and Barnes, offered a further chance by McManaman, forced Flowers to turn the ball round the post.

For Liverpool, that was about it. Sutton's glancing header from Gallacher's low, diagonal cross, left Liverpool shredded. Today they will need not so much training as therapy.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-5-1) T Flowers - J Hendry, H Berg, C Hendry, G Le Saot - R Gallacher (sub: L Bjornebye, 70min), T Sheenwood, G Flitcroft, W McKinlay, J Wilcox - C Sutton.

LIVERPOOL (3-5-2) D James - M Wright, O Matteo, P Babb - J McManaman, S McManaman, W Thomas, J Barnes, S Bjornebye (sub: J Redknapp, 31) - R Fowler, P Berger (sub: S Collymore, 50)

Referee: S Lodge

Ferguson injury keeps Royle and Brown waiting



Barmby: Everton debut

By PETER BALL

NICK BARMBY, Everton's record signing, makes his debut against Coventry City at Goodison Park tonight, but he may have to wait to begin a partnership with Duncan Ferguson. Ferguson, the Everton striker, has a calf strain, and may not be fit to return after his month-long lay-off because of a groin injury and suspension. "We'll give him every chance," Joe Royle, the manager, said yesterday, "but at the moment he is very doubtful."

Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, was intending to watch Ferguson this evening in the hope that he will be

available for the World Cup qualifying match against Sweden on Sunday. If Ferguson misses the game tonight, though, he is unlikely to be able to join the squad.

Everton have won their past three games without Ferguson and now have to accommodate Barmby, their £5.75 million signing from Middlesbrough. Royle has been coy about exactly how he intends to use Barmby in the long term, but tonight he is expected to play at the front, replacing either Michael Branch or Graham Stuart.

Blackburn Rovers' first win in the FA Carling Premiership yesterday

means matters are even tighter at the bottom, making the game even more important for Coventry. They will be without Dublin, leaving their attack in the hands of Whelan and either Jess or Ndlovu. "It seems that whenever we get a player fit, someone else gets an injury," Ron Atkinson, the Coventry manager, said. "I've never known a club like this for injuries."

Savo Milosevic's move from Aston Villa to Perugia was on hold yesterday because the Italian club apparently changed their mind about paying Villa's £4.5 million asking price. "The problem is definitely at the Perugia end," Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman,

said. "As far as we are concerned, we've shaken hands on the transfer and agreed everything."

Jim Fallon yesterday resigned as manager of Dumbarton, the team who are second from bottom of the Bell's Scottish League second division, insisting he had decided to leave before the 5-0 defeat by Livingston on Saturday. "I had told the directors on Thursday that I was going - win, lose or draw," Fallon said.

"Football is an enjoyment as far as I am concerned, but I am not enjoying it at the moment. However, I would like to get back into the game some time in the future."

Why I would have backed players' strike

STEVE McMANAMAN



on an issue that has united PFA members

I can see myself now, outside Anfield at 3am, throwing spuds on a brazier, woolly hat on my head and placard in my hand. In reality, it wouldn't be so dramatic, but I would go on strike for my union, and I think that the overwhelming majority of my fellow players would do the same. That was the clear message when the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) balloted its Nationwide League members recently.

The dispute with the Football League did not involve FA Carling Premiership players, but I know there is strong support from all the players for Gordon Taylor and his position on the union's slice of television money.

It looks as though the dispute has been resolved, and I'm glad, because it is an issue the players do feel strongly about. The union deserves a fair slice of television money, because it does great things for its members - and don't forget that it is the members who generate all that television money in the first place.

I have heard the players accused of being greedy for wanting this money, but that is missing the point. It is not the players earning thousands a week who are benefiting most from this, but the less fortunate members.

The union does a huge amount of work for all the players, but particularly those from the smaller clubs. It puts on courses, helps injured players, helps in retraining and helps many of them survive. When they are injured, out of the game, whatever, the union helps.

It's simply not a question of players going on strike to earn more money, but to ensure the welfare of those people that help generate the money that is now pouring into the game. It is such a powerful union because we all stick together.

It would be easy for the top players to ignore the needs of the lower-division clubs but it is important for the game that we don't. It needs players coming through to survive, and many of the top players came from the lower leagues originally.

If there wasn't the support system, then many would not emerge. Remember, there are thousands of members in the PFA, and only a fraction of them are earning the sort of money people read about. Is it wrong of the union to want to stand by agreements going back decades so that it can help the players that need it?

I think some people have been getting the issue confused. They seem to think it is greedy players wanting to cash in, wanting to earn even more money. People see top players earning decent wages and immediately think they are greedy - that all footballers are greedy.

Some players are on massive wages but, believe me, a lot of the figures are exaggerated. People have said to me that nurses should be on more than footballers and there is no doubt that they should be getting a lot more for what

they do. There is a moral issue there and, in some ways, you do question whether there should be so much money in football. But on the other hand, there is no doubt that the top footballers are generating that money. The game obviously would be worth nothing without its players, so why shouldn't the players get a decent share of the spoils?

I'm not saying that the players should get all the money - there's no point in players earning huge salaries if their stadium is falling down. Nobody wants to see clubs going bust either, so the money should be channelled down to the lower divisions to ensure that there is a healthy structure.

It should be remembered that every player has a limited shelf life, a relatively short career. On top of that, we run the risk of injury that could end our careers at any stage, and everyone wants to look after their families, to provide security for their future. If the money is there, it would be foolish not to take it when you examine your long-term prospects.

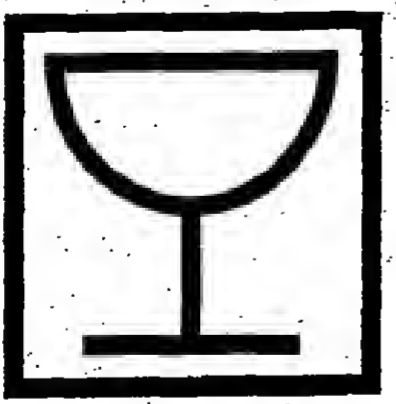
Every player is under pressures, too, pressures that may be did not exist ten or 20 years ago. We are in the public eye and often perceived as role models. That is why the problems surrounding Paul Gascoigne have been such big news recently.

He has been condemned, but Glenn Hoddle has stood by him. I know Gazza, but I don't know what happens in his private life. Nobody knows the pressures Gazza experiences, except him. It is an emotive issue, but without knowing what he and his family have gone through, it would be wrong to pass judgment. How can anyone, except those that know the facts?

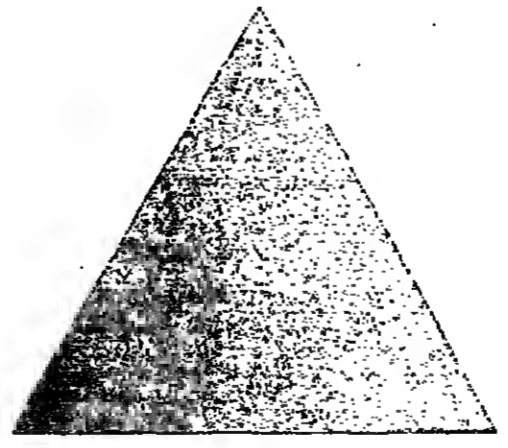
There are so many things for players to cope with and that's why players need support, from each other and from their professional body.

Again, that's where the union comes in. When a player is finished, he is no use to a club, and will be eased out of the door, perhaps without a future. Where do we turn? That is why I would strike for my union - and that is why the PFA enjoys such widespread support among its members.

'Injury can easily end a career at any stage'



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FOOTBALL

Ferguson pledges to reopen case for the defence

Manchester United 1
Chelsea 2

BY PETER BALL

INSTEAD of celebrating his ten years in charge of Manchester United this week, Alex Ferguson is faced with reviving his faltering team. If talk of crisis would be exaggerated, four defeats in five games can no longer be passed off as a mere blip.

Where does he start? Schmeichel's responsibility for the 12 goals that Newcastle United, Southampton and Fenerbahce put past him is debatable, apart from the one where he was beaten at the near post at The Dell, but on Saturday he was the main culprit, if not the only one, for both Chelsea goals.

son, Hughes has looked a pale shadow of his old self, but on Saturday, fired by a return to his former stamping ground, he was rampant. So strong, so powerful, he was always available and impossible to knock off the ball, hard as May tried.

Full results and league tables ... Page 33

ball and player; but his hesitation allowed the Italian to bring the ball down and beat him at his leisure. It betrayed Schmeichel's lack of confidence: did he fear being chipped again?

If one returning old boy pointed up United's problems, Ferguson was left to reflect on the telling absence of another. There will be occasions when we suffer from the loss of a defensive colossus such as Steve Bruce, he said. "His sheer enthusiasm and priceless will to win cannot easily be replaced."

How United miss Gigg, whose absence has highlighted the ignorance of the criticism of him earlier this season, and likewise Cole, whose value as a leader of the attack has been consistently underrated, whatever his fallings in front of goal.



Vialli points the way forward for Chelsea after scoring their second goal at Old Trafford

While concentrating on Europe might be in tatters. MANCHESTER UNITED (4-3-1-2): P. Schmeichel - D. Wetherby, G. Maly, R. Johnson, P. Neville - O. Deschamps, R. Keane, N. Butt - E. Carrasco - P. Scholes (sub: R. Pabonay, G. Sonejira) CHELSEA (4-4-2): M. Hitzcock - M. Dabney, F. Leboeuf, S. Clarke - G. Potters, C. Butler, D. Maddox, O. Wain, S. Mingo - G. Vialli, M. Hughes. Referee: K. Burge.

is and Cole, will help, but will it happen soon enough? Juventus arrive in two weeks, the trip to Rapid Vienna for the game that will decide their European fate is only four weeks away. By then, the plan to stay in touch in the FA Carling Premiership

Le Tissier lies in wait with the unexpected

Simon Barnes watches patiently for a sighting of a rare football species

Have you ever stalked out a water-hole in the African bush? It is extremely exciting. You get there tremendously early, and you sit there for hours and hours and absolutely nothing happens. And yet you never look away because you know that, if you did, you would miss something so ridiculously wonderful you will never forget it.

Now, though, the Le Tissier lion is back making its usual sporadic and unpredictable appearances, and Southampton are very well worth staking out again. Is it being back in the England squad? Is it being under a new manager, Graeme Souness? Is it having a simpatico fellow in Berkshire to play off? Or all three? No great matter, really. It is just good to sit there, waiting to see if the lion will turn up, and knowing that it very well might. Even though Wednesday took the lead in the fourteenth minute through Newsome, it was always Southampton and Le Tissier you watched for.

And the wait was rewarded when he broke through on the end of a sudden counter-attack to unleash a dipping drive onto the crossbar. In that instant, it was clear that Le Tissier's relish for football, subtle and understated though it is, is back.

Berkovic's cross gave us the next big game as a sighting. Le Tissier performed one of those tricks that all pros can do in training, and very few in a match: the simple chest-down and volley. Pressman, having a good afternoon, pulled off an excellent hand-stung save and later he balked him again with a fine footstop.

West Ham pay heavy penalty for Bilic blunder

Tottenham Hotspur 1
West Ham United 0

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

AFTER a first half of dreadful sterility, West Ham dominated the game and lost. Moreover, to a slightly ludicrous goal. Their Croatian defender, Slaven Bilic, gave it away, and afterwards Harry Redknapp, West Ham's ebullient manager, was understandably dismayed. "Slaven made a mistake," he said. "Going to play it, let it run, and get in a bit of a muddle with it."

ball, shot, and though Mikosko took the sting off it, he could not prevent it going into goal. That was after 67 minutes, at a time West Ham had raised their game and were utterly dominant, but they could not capitalise. Indeed, it was another 20 minutes before Bilic, now upfield, let fly a tremendous left-footer from outside the box which beat Walker, only to rebound from the inside of the post.

worked some great positions for himself, and didn't score," Redknapp said. Gerry Francis is wont to rattle up the usual (absent) suspects, and he did so again, pointing to the injured Mabinut, Anderson (who may be back in a fortnight - where have we heard that before?), Fox and Sinton. So the tyro striker Allen had to play on the right flank and Edinburgh had to overlap from full back on the left.

forced Teddy Sheringham to drop deep for much of the game, working well, though he himself late in the game lobbed a sitter over the bar, when served by Armstrong. "I thought Teddy did a great job today," Francis said, "passing the ball and controlling the ball."

that, who came on as a nineteenth minute substitute, should be fully recovered from his hamstring pull. "West Ham play a very unusual tight system," Francis said. "A lot of fluid players moving around. You have to concentrate to stop them getting through and causing you problems."

Sunderland lose their way

Leeds United 3
Sunderland 0

BY DAVID MADDOCK

CAN you imagine Peter Reid looking more hang-dog than usual? He was, and it was detectable, just after what he described as a frustrating performance from his side. "This is the most disappointed I've felt after a game this season," he said. "We should have nailed them, and we didn't."

The Sunderland manager was reflecting on a contest which his side dominated during the first half, and yet contrived not just to lose, but to lose badly. His point was, however, not just that Leeds United should have been beaten on the day, but that it was a real opportunity for victory, even before the kick-off. Reid is a canny manager, he understands the imbalance intrinsic in the make-up of the FA Carling Premiership. Sunderland will not often travel with confidence this season, and to waste such an opportunity is a criminal neglect of points that are hard enough to come by as it is.

is astute enough to have targeted this game as one Sunderland could have won, hence his frustration. Reid seems to be picking and choosing his matches, reasoning the best games in which to go for broke. This was one, with Michael Bridges, 18 and a rare talent, given a rare outing. It did not work because Sunderland did not convert their first-half dominance into goals.



Reid: frustrating afternoon

"We played well, but if you don't nail opponents, you pay the penalty," Reid said. George Graham, the Leeds manager, was equally dismissive of a scoreline that flattered a team still short on experience and confidence. "We still have a lot of work to do," he said. "There is no use working during the week and then throwing it out on Saturday."

Leeds went into the interval ahead, but only after Nigel Martyn, their goalkeeper, had saved well from Kelly, Hall and Stewart. The goal, after 27 minutes, was the only move of note Leeds put together in an undistinguished first half.

Sunderland lost Howey through injury early in the second half, and there followed what Reid described as ten minutes of madness, where first Sharpe, latching on to a rebound after Deane had bundled into Perez, the Sunderland goalkeeper, found the net, and then Deane made things comfortable with an acrobatic volley on the turn from Bowyer's cross.

Derby County refuse to follow the script

Derby County 2
Leicester City 0

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

IT WAS billed as the day that Leicester City, the pundits' favourites to fall swiftly through the FA Carling Premiership trapdoor, might take over as top team in the Midlands. If Aston Villa slipped up against Nottingham Forest, and Leicester saw off Derby County, Martin O'Neill's battling braves would secure local bragging rights. No mean achievement.

Smith was asked if Derby were back on track, after a first win in seven weeks. "Yes, I suppose so. Trouble is, we've now got a fortnight off because of the internationals." County must make do with a Derbyshire Senior Cup clash against Chesterfield next week. Claridge shaved the crossbar early on for Leicester while Rowett saw his powerful, downward header blocked on the line. First half over; much ado about nothing.

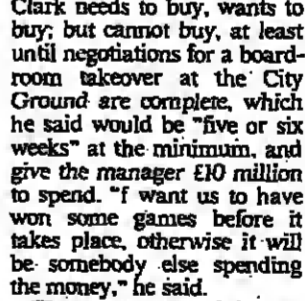
Forest stuck in wasteland

Aston Villa 2
Nottingham Forest 0

BY KETH PIKE

HE RAISED a prolonged and genuine smile in defeat, which says something about his character but even more about the practice he has been getting. Yet Frank Clark sounded for all the world like a man who knows that his time is running out, and very likely it is.

Clark needs to buy, wants to buy, but cannot buy, at least until negotiations for a boardroom takeover at the City Ground are complete, which he said would be "five or six weeks" at the minimum, and give the manager £10 million to spend. "I want us to have won some games before it takes place, otherwise it will be somebody else spending the money," he said. "But we are not sitting on our hands waiting for it to happen. The answer lies in the dressing-room (preventing morale from imploding) and the treatment room (Bart-Williams and Stone, as well as Campbell, are injured). We have got to start winning games otherwise we will be tailed off, but I am not lying awake at night worrying about it."



Clark: under pressure

Forest has now scraped two FA Carling Premiership points out of 21, and both of those were tinged with good fortune. Here they had little, undone by a spiteful deflection, a goalkeeping mistake - another one - and the wasteful finishing of Jason Lee, whose finishing plunged from the inept to the embarrassing. At the present rate, Forest will be down by Christmas.

Advertisement for Jobson's Choice and VH-1 Music That Means Something. Includes a row of five small portraits of men and the text: 'WATCH RICHARD JOBSON. A MAN WITH OPINION & ATTITUDE - NO MUSIC VIDEO IS SAFE.' and 'available via cable and satellite.'

FOOTBALL: GAYLE'S FORCE BRINGS WIMBLEDON REWARD FOR SPIRITED APPROACH

Vieira adds to Arsenal armoury

Michael Henderson finds welcome signs of skill and subtlety from the north London team in the 2-2 draw at Selhurst Park

DON'T tell me! Wimbledon versus Arsenal. It was like walking round town with a nail in your boot. Well, it was not pretty. There was some shoddy football, and some nastiness, but there were also indications that Arsenal are trying to shed something of their bad old ways. Vieira can play a bit, and Wright is still good for a goal or two, whatever else one might think about him. They tried to pass the ball, and one does not see that every Saturday at Selhurst Park, or at Highbury.

Should Arsenal have won then?

They will be disappointed not to have done. They could easily have been three goals clear by the time Jones equalised in the *fast-end* of the first half. It was a nice header, but Arsenal had been much the better team up to that point, and they looked more likely to win afterwards, denied only when Gayle bundled the ball across the line. Still, you have to award Wimbledon high marks for their pluck. They keep grinding out "results".

Who took the eye?

Vieira, without a doubt. From a distance he resembles Carlton Palmer, but do not let that put you off. Whereas

Palmer makes a virtue of imprecision, Vieira looks handy on the ball, and moves well with it. He made the first goal for Wright by blocking Ekoku on the edge of his own box, striding 40 yards and releasing Wright with just the pass he needed. From his position in front of the back five, Vieira is likely to make an impression this season.

So Wright scored again. Is he worth his England summons?

In short, no. You do not become an international-class goal poacher at the age of 33. He remains a marvellous snapper-up for his club, but his tendency to see himself as a latter-day St Sebastian is tiresome. Perhaps Arsene Wenger, whose command of English is better than Wright's, can persuade him to moon a bit less at referees and linesmen whose jobs are hardly less difficult than his own. He is such a strutter.

Didn't he save Jones from the chop?

There was a bit of a kerfuffle after Arsenal's second goal,

though it was difficult to determine exactly what was going on. A minute before there had been some scuffling in the Arsenal penalty area, and this was the residue of that incident. Apparently Wright intervened on Jones's behalf, which impressed Joe Kinnear, who called him a "good pro". Where professionalism is concerned, of course, professionals are not always the most reliable witnesses. By their standards, the best pro of all was probably Jack the Ripper.

Are Arsenal good enough to challenge for the title?

They have got the spirit. Before half-time they lost Bould for six minutes and Adams for ten, in each case after a clash of heads, and they refused to yield an inch. A lot depends on Bergkamp, who was quiet on Saturday, because Platt appears to be drawing on the interest of his career account. They could do with a passer of the ball in the middle, too, although that could be said of many teams.

Merson, who scored their second goal, means a lot to them with those surges from deep positions. A couple of younger defenders could come in handy.

Come on, get off the fence. Would you pay money to watch them?

Not if Newcastle were playing Liverpool in the next meadow, no. Arsenal are never going to be a popular club, and they do not want to be. As Danny Blanchflower said,

clubs have traditions, and the threads of history are difficult to unpick. Wenger is unlikely to change things much. Arsenal may lighten up a bit but watching them is never going to be a treasure hunt. They will probably finish sixth.

And Wimbledon?

Seventh, maybe. They try to make out they are living off scraps, and in the sense that they have only 27 fans, they are, but they can put out a fair side. Earle has always been a good player, and Leonhardsen is a busy little bee. Perry, apparently, is making a reputation at centre back but he did not excel on this occasion. Ardley, on the right, has his moments. The problem is, they do not always want to play. The harum-scarum tactics, of which Wenger complained later, are not always necessary. Perhaps they should trust themselves a little more.

So we'll see you at Highbury for the return match?

Indeed you won't.



Wright, still a fine finisher at club level, struts his stuff against Wimbledon



Earle: impressive

Cup glory may end Stranraer wilderness years

Glory is supposed to come on afternoons when the sunlight is stroking the faces of the players, but the disadvantaged cannot afford to be fussy about the temperature. For the Challenge Cup final at Broadwood Stadium yesterday, the November wind scrubbed away skin and the soreness was relieved only for Stranraer, of the Bell's Scottish League second division, who defeated St Johnstone, from the first division, 1-0.

Most clubs huddle together in Scotland's central belt and to them Stranraer, in the southwest of the country, is a distant, and not at all exotic, outpost. Players asked to consider a move to Stair Park used to react as if deportation were being proposed. Matters have been improving since 1994, when Stranraer achieved promotion for the first time in their history, taking the old second division title.

In its isolation, the club does have a firm grip on an audience. Colin Calderwood, the Tottenham Hotspur and Scotland centre half, was born in the town and, while he was never to sign for Stranraer, he remembers, in boyhood, gaping in awe when he saw Alex McCutcheon, a player who lived in the area, walking down the street.

Even now, Calderwood is restless on a Saturday evening until he knows the Stranraer result. The news can be awaited with less trepidation these days. The club has a full-time manager, Campbell Money, and there is a sturdiness about the team that he fields. Of course, at this level, players do still trail quirky biographies behind them.

One of the Stranraer forwards, Tommy Sloan, preceded this match with his night shift as a baker. In a tournament competed for by the members of the three lower divisions, though, the romance of the final was really present only in its result. Money's side intended, principally, to be watchful and that

attitude was turned into stern conviction once they had moved in front.

The goal, in the 26th minute, had as its mainspring the steadiness that recognises the inevitability of mistakes at this level. In a warmer climate, or a more sophisticated contest, Tony Gallagher's free kick from the left would have been wasteful, for it was whipped directly towards the goalkeeper.

Stranraer's defender, though, was eager to find out just how much adhesiveness there was in Alan Main's chilled fingers and damp gloves. The goalkeeper fumbled the ball and a harassed Danny Griffin booted an attempted clearance into his own net. St Johnstone, the better side, then spent the rest of the day discovering just how unimportant superiority can be.

The players of the Perth club are full-time and they are ranked among the favourites for promotion to the premier division. Their ineffectiveness on Saturday must remove some of the confidence with which their prospects have been regarded. Smooth technique was not enough to break the will of a Stranraer team happy to pack its own penalty area.

The goalkeeper, Barney Duffy, dealt with a succession of crosses from St Johnstone but was not forced to get himself mucky by diving on the soggy turf until the 88th minute, when he blocked at the feet of Roddy Grant.

The jubilation that flooded one of Broadwood's stands soon afterwards was vast, even if the attendance figure was a slim 3,522. Nearly ten times as many people had sampled the same euphoria on Saturday, when Celtic, with a goal from Paolo di Canio, overcame Aberdeen in Glasgow and clambered to the top of the premier division.

They lead on goal difference, by a margin of one, from a Rangers side who were woebegone after drawing 2-2 away to Raith Rovers, who are bottom of the table. The Ibrox club, even if no one will admit it, are believed to have offered Kenny Dalglish a job that would require him to identify suitable European players and bring them to Rangers.

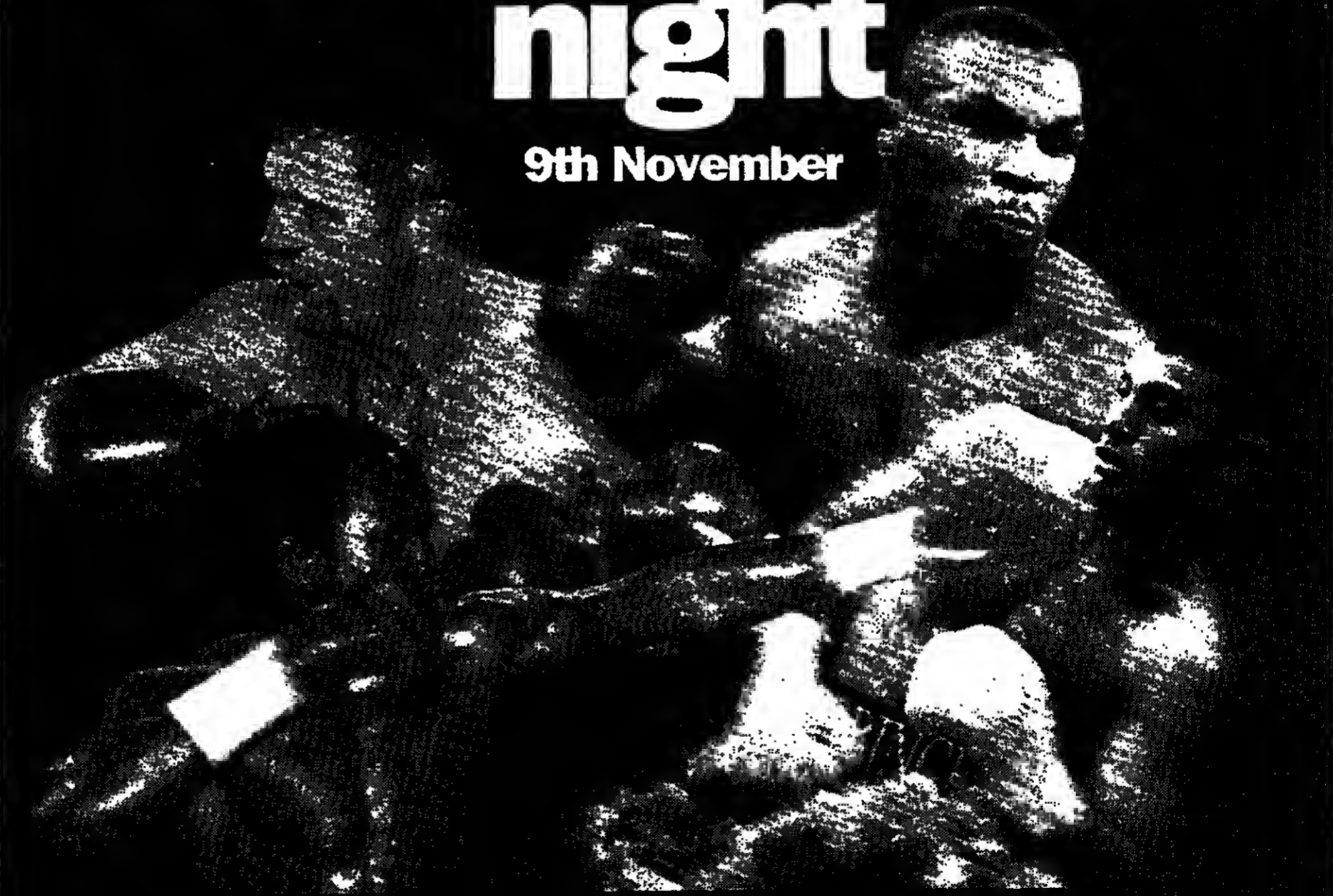
Those supporters who made the long journey to Broadwood, however, will not be taking the slightest interest in anyone else's plans. Stranraer, founded in 1870, have a tradition of dawdling and, in 1981, they became the last of Britain's senior clubs to install floodlighting, but progress does continue all the same. Now, for the first time, there will be the gleam of a significant cup in the Stair Park boardroom.

KEVIN McCARRA
Scottish commentary



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Ladies: K. Tetscher & V. Friday (Hurlingham), H. Chapman & J. Jakes (Chislehurst B.C.), J. Cookson & M. Wiehe, N. Buxton & K. Mannes (Reclunpton B.C.)

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CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Aston Villa, Nottingham Forest, Derby, and Leeds.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, and Tottenham.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Blackburn, Newcastle, Wimbledon, and Sheffield Wednesday.



Yorke scored against Forest

UNITED'S SLUMP
RECORDS are tumbling at Old Trafford, but not for the right reasons. Manchester United were the last team to surrender their unbeaten record in the season's FA Cup Premier...

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists league table from Newcastle to Blackburn.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Bolton, Bradford, Norwich, and Oxford.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Tottenham, Luton, and Charlton.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Goals. Lists Newcastle, Wimbledon, and Sheffield Wednesday.

GOALSCORERS
Wright (Arsenal) 10, F. Rangelov (Middlesbrough) 7, F. Rangelov (Middlesbrough) 7, M. L. Taylor (Southampton) 8, A. Shearer (Newcastle) 7, R. Fowler (Liverpool) 4, R. Zobara (Wimbledon) 4, G. Vialli (Chelsea) 6, C. Armstrong (Tottenham) 5, M. Coyte (Wimbledon) 4, D. Yorke (Aston Villa) 5, P. Berger (Liverpool) 4.

EUROPE
ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bologna 3 AS Roma 2, Cagliari 2 Perugia 1, Juventus 1 Napoli 1, AC Milan 2 AC Milan 1, Lazio 1 Sampdoria 3, Fiorentina 0, Udinese 2, Reggina 1, Verona 0 Internazionale 1 Milan 1.

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists First Division from Bolton to Bradford.

SECOND DIVISION

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Second Division from Millwall to Wycombe.

THIRD DIVISION

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Third Division from Fulham to Brighton.

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Premier Division from Celtic to Raith.

FIRST DIVISION

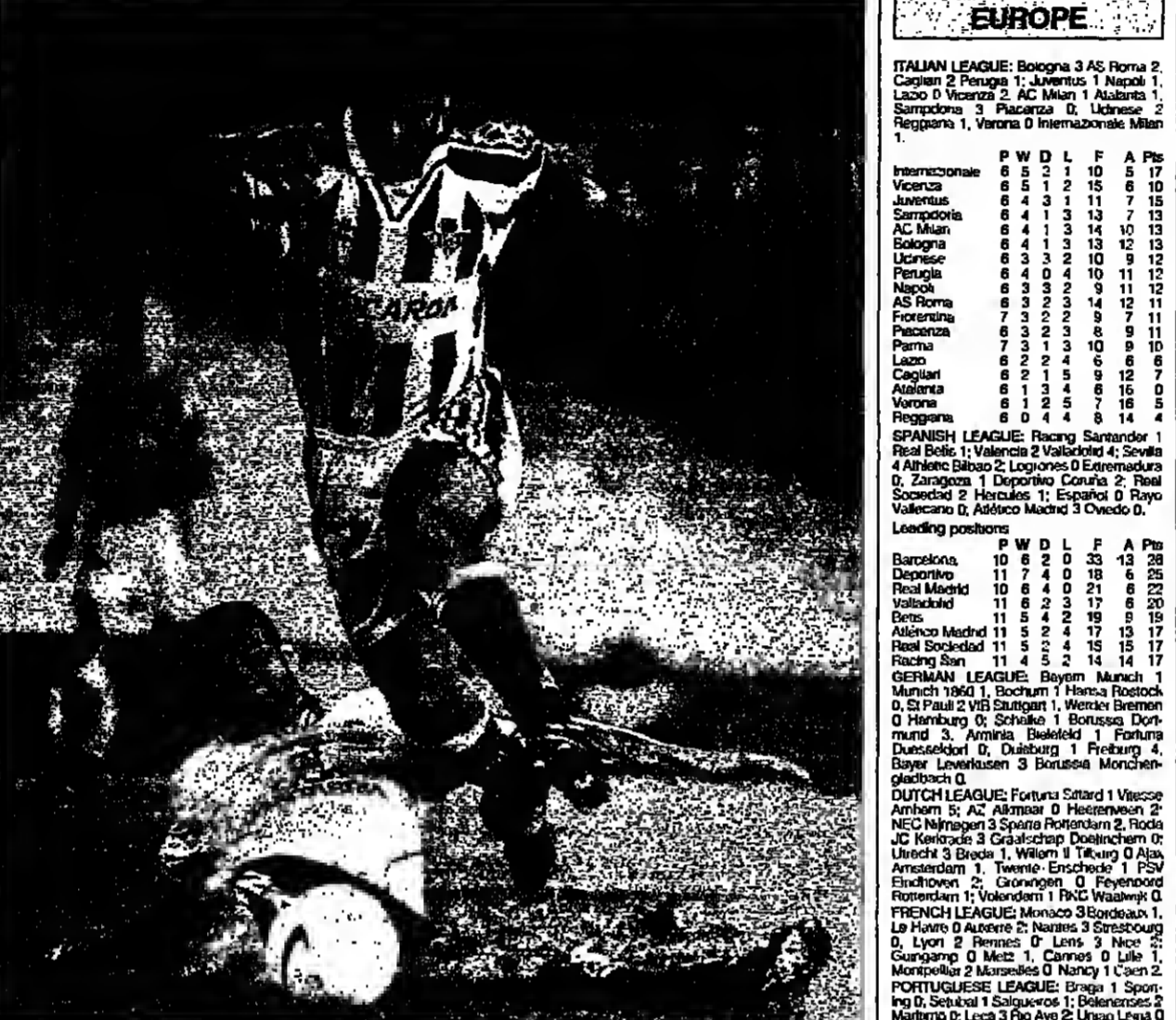
Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists First Division from Airdrie to East Fife.

SECOND DIVISION

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Second Division from Livingston to Bonwick.

THIRD DIVISION

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Third Division from Cowthick to East Stirling.



Nenad Bjelic, the Real Betis midfielder, evades the tackle of Javi Lopez, of Racing de Santander, during their Spanish League match which finished as a 1-1 draw

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists various non-league leagues.

UNION

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists Union leagues.

ISCS

Table with 10 columns: Rank, Team, Home, Away, Goal. Lists ISCS leagues.

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE logo

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP logo

THIRD DIVISION logo

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE logo

THIRD DIVISION logo

THIRD DIVISION logo

POOLS CHECK logo

THIRD DIVISION logo

NETBALL: ENGLAND CALL GIVEN PROMINENCE BY RELATIVE SUCCESS

Neville branches out in sporting family tree

As sporting families' success stories go, they do not come much more complete than the Nevilles. Gary and Philip have already earned fame and fortune playing football for Manchester United and England. On Saturday, at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, Tracey, 19, made her England netball debut against Jamaica.

Sarah Potter on how a teenager has followed in her footballing brothers' footsteps to international recognition

squad is the realisation of an ambition held since junior school, when she began watching her mother play for club and county. "I knew when I was 12 that I wanted netball to be my life," Tracey said emphatically. "But I can't believe it has actually come true. It's brilliant."

friends were. A lot of them have never supported football before, now they are worse than me. We go to the pub and watch all the matches and I travel to as many games as I can.

be special for Tracey and her family. "I know all my friends have got tickets and word would have gone round the local netball clubs. That's really nerve-racking." She giggled before admitting that she does not like thinking about that kind of pressure. "I was at the Man United game last week and there were 55,000 watching and I thought, I might be playing in front of 2,000 people. I'll be wetting myself!"



Neville's skills as a goal attack were unable to keep England from defeat by Jamaica

EQUESTRIANISM

Short cut produces delight for Holland

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN AMSTERDAM

WOUT-JAN van der Schans, from Holland, gave his vociferous home crowd a victory to savour yesterday when he and Leroy Brown won the Volvo World Cup qualifier after relegating Ludger Beerbaum, the former Olympic champion from Germany, to second place by one-hundredth of a second.

FISHING: RECORD CATCHES PROVE THAT SUCCESS CAN OWE AS MUCH TO GOOD LUCK AS TO THE PRECISION PLANNING OF THE ANGLER

Fickle fortune throws up tails of the unexpected

THE capture a week ago of the biggest brown trout ever taken by an angler in England, hard on the heels of a record catfish a couple of weeks before, shows what a fickle and seductive mistress fishing can be.

who has not experienced the like. The biggest freshwater fish I have knowingly hooked, a pike, was taken when I was still in short trousers and spinning the Tees for chub. Shortly after we met and before we were married, my wife hooked — but mercifully lost — the fish I had been trying to get for hours, with the first attempt at casting with a rod of any kind.

ended and so — magnificent specimen though it was — could never have been accepted for a claim. Just occasionally, fortune plays things straight. The two most famous fish ever caught in Britain are examples.

moment, Miss Ballantine said she wanted to make the most of the last long day. Her father rowed. She trotted from the back of the boat.



Reynard, left, was simply testing for depth when he hooked the 61lb record catfish in Witley Pool; Nichol was surprised to take a 19lb brown trout while ledgering for pike

man who ran the fishery for the estate. He knew every pebble and lie on the river bed. He steered his daughter deliberately to a specific spot which on that day at that time, experience told him to try. Briefly, the biggest salmon in Christendom, on its way to the spawning redds, had stopped there to rest.

mined to catch a great carp, he planned its downfall as systematically as he planned everything else. He found a lake that contained great carp, studied the behaviour of the fish in that lake and then laid siege to them with tackle he had designed and built for that one job alone.

Midland Interest Rates for Business Customers. Table showing various interest rates for Money Master, Premium Business Account, Clients Premium Deposit Account, Education Account, and Treasurer Account. Includes Midland logo and contact information.

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD. Sports schedule for today, tomorrow, and Wednesday. Includes football, rugby union, and other sports. Also features an advertisement for the Audi A3 with the slogan 'No pyrotechnics. Just Vorsprung durch Technik.'

Results, page 40. A small section providing information about where to find the full results for the week's events.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

Road running

NEW YORK MARATHON 136.2 miles... BRENTWOOD, Essex League: Men 5 miles... AMSTERDAM MARATHON 142mi: Men 1:12:55...

BOWLING

Titan Cup Australia v India

MCHALE Australian bow best India bow Australia by five runs... TIEN CHUN, Pakistan: S R Tendulkar...

Boxing

Third one-day international match

Pakistan v Zimbabwe: Pakistan won last Pakistan test... Pakistan: Shoaib Akhtar...

Cricket

Tour match

New South Wales XI v England A: TAMMORTH (first day of first New South Wales XI tour England A by nine wickets...)

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) Friday

Chicago 107 Boston 96 Detroit 88 Indiana 91 Memphis 79 New York Knicks 97 Washington 96 Orlando 82...)

Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division

London 10 Nottingham 9 Sheffield 8...)

Schools Sport

Rugby Union

Rugby Union: South Africa 27 v New Zealand 24...)

Cycling

CYCLIST CROSS: British Association

International Ladies Team three rounds...)

Equestrianism

AIJMER/STANTON: International Horse

AIJMER/STANTON: International Horse...)

Lacrosse

SHEPHERD BROADWAY: Premier

SHEPHERD BROADWAY: Premier division...)

Motor Sport

DONINGTON PARK: August RAC Tour

DONINGTON PARK: August RAC Tour...)

Netball

INTERNATIONAL: Premier division

INTERNATIONAL: Premier division...)

Rowing

WELLS SCULLS: Men: Open 9+ P

WELLS SCULLS: Men: Open 9+ P...)

Football

FA PREMIER LEAGUE: Under-18 Trophy

FA PREMIER LEAGUE: Under-18 Trophy...)

Football

MIDLANDS JUNIOR COUNTY TOURNA

MIDLANDS JUNIOR COUNTY TOURNA...)

Football

LACROSSE

LACROSSE: Midlands Junior County...)

Football

TOUR MATCHES

Tour Matches: Cambridge Univ 11 v South Africa...)

Football

HEINEKEN CUP

Heineken Cup: Trevivo 2 v Bath 50...)

Football

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

European Conference: Pool A...)

Football

PILKINGTON CUP

Pilkington Cup: Second round...)

Football

WELSH LEAGUE

Welsh League: Second division...)

Football

UNDER-19 INTERNATIONAL MATCH

Under-19 International Match: Wales 2 v Canada 1...)

Football

ASCOT

Ascot: 12.50 v Spina's Ovation...)

Football

WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton: 7.00 v Tollymore...)

Football

KELSO

Kelso: 1.00 v Seaking...)

Football

THE TIMES RACING

The Times Racing: 12.40 v Shylah...)

Football

WARWICK

Warwick: 12.40 v Shylah...)

Football

ASCOT

Ascot: 12.50 v Spina's Ovation...)

Football

WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton: 7.00 v Tollymore...)

Football

KELSO

Kelso: 1.00 v Seaking...)

Football

ASCOT

Ascot: 12.50 v Spina's Ovation...)

Football

WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton: 7.00 v Tollymore...)

Football

KELSO

Kelso: 1.00 v Seaking...)

Football

THE TIMES RACING

The Times Racing: 12.40 v Shylah...)

Table with multiple columns for football league tables: National League, FA Premier League, Midlands Junior County, etc. Columns include team names and statistics.

Large advertisement for 'this pena we me pay for perfect pitch' featuring a black and white photograph of a man in a suit and a woman in a dress. Includes text about a technical knock-out in Tokyo.

Footer section with 'THE TIMES RACING' logo, contact information for the Times Sports Service (Call 0891 500 123), and a 'FOOTBALL' section.

As artificial surfaces proliferate, so injury time is increasing. John Goodbody asks if the two are connected

Is this the penalty we must pay for a perfect pitch?

The argument over whether playing on artificial pitches instead of grass leads to more injuries will be debated by the Royal Society of Medicine next month. With some 40 new pitches being laid every year in Britain, there is a need for an independent scientific survey into the relationship between the harder surfaces and a growing number of injuries to the back and lower limbs, particularly to hockey players.



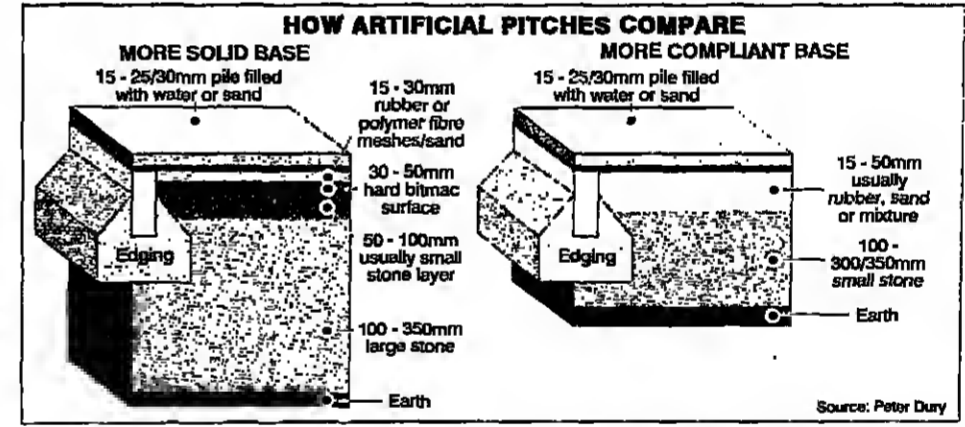
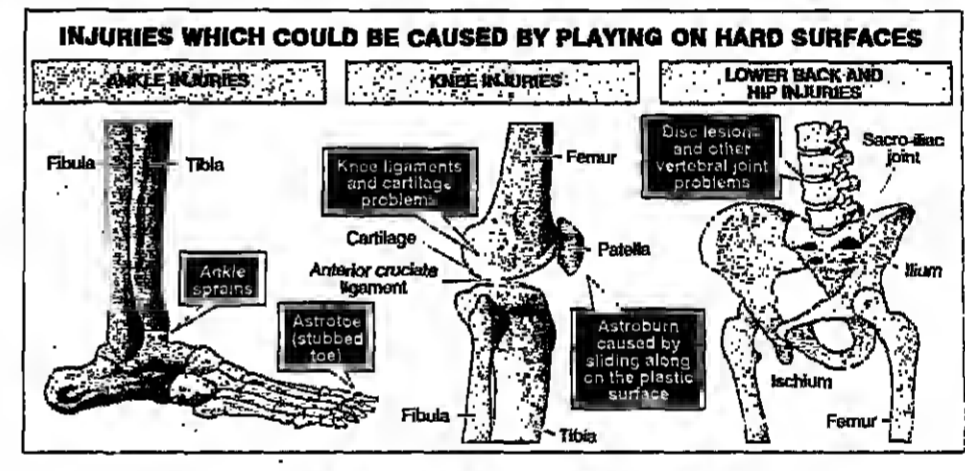
All top-class and most club hockey is almost exclusively played on artificial pitches, which are also used extensively at lower levels for tennis, football and other sports. Richard Dodds, captain of the Great Britain 1988 Olympic gold medal-winning hockey team and now an orthopaedic surgeon, will deliver the paper to the Royal Society. Dr Mike Imani, secretary of its Sports Medicine Committee, said: "We are certainly seeing more injuries but we do not know whether this is caused by the surfaces or whether having them available simply allows people to play so much more than they used to do."

on synthetic surfaces than on grass. If players slide on the plastic pile or sand, they will scrape their skin more severely than on natural turf. Dodds also described a syndrome nicknamed "Astroturf" in which players stub their toes on the carpet. Hockey physiotherapists have treated players with disc lesions and other vertebral joint problems. Ankle sprains and knee ligament and cartilage problems are also commonplace, yet no direct link has been established to blame all this on the new surfaces. Dodds said: "My gut feeling is that grass gives just that little bit more than artificial turf. However, I am not convinced whether synthetic surfaces cause injuries. We just do not have the figures."

Hard knocks are to be expected as East Grinstead battle with Surbiton at a hockey match on a typical modern artificial pitch this season, but some believe that grass is safer

stone, sand or gravel, or a combination of these. The latter is more difficult to lay but is increasingly used in Britain. The other variable is whether sand or water is used between the pile of the carpet surface. Most hockey players prefer playing on water-based pitches, although it can lead to a risk of blisters and trench foot. About 25 such pitches exist in Britain, and Dodds said of them: "They need watering between every game and even at half-time when it is hot but some authorities do not have the resources to do this."

concern has remained at lower levels of the sport and also at all strata of hockey. This was highlighted when four leading hockey internationals — Sandie Lister, Karen Brown, Tina Cullen and Vicky Dixon — suffered severe back injuries in the early 1990s.



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Today's hand is an example of a communication play. I've discussed before. They do come up in practice, I assure you. This one occurred in the high-stake game at TGR's.

Dealer North East-West game

Contract: 3 NT by South. Lead: King of spades

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Book prize

The British Chess Federation book of the year award has gone to David Bronstein, the Russian author, for his book *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, published by Cadogan. The judges said: "Bronstein's book was a unanimous first choice. David Bronstein possessed a chess imagination of the highest order and his best games can stand alongside any world champions. *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* is, however, more than just a well annotated collection of best games — it reveals the man behind the player. It also amply illustrates Bronstein's love of the game and his artistic genius."

Here is a game won by Bronstein from his 1951 world championship challenge. White: David Bronstein. Black: Mikhail Botvinnik. World championship Moscow 1951.

Dutch Defence

1 d4 e6
2 c4 f5
3 g3 N6
4 Bg2 Bc7
5 Nc3 e7
6 Bb1 c6
7 Ng2 Nd4
8 O-O Nf6
9 Bb2 Nc6
10 Bxc3 g5
11 Qc2 exd5
12 exd5 exd5
13 Bx3 g4
14 Ng4 Nf6
15 Bx6 Bb6
16 Bb3 e5
17 Nf4 Qc7
18 d4 b5
19 e4 Nc4
20 Rxb1 b5
21 Bg2 Ng4
22 Bc2 N6

Diagram of final position

Top tournament

The city of Las Palmas will organise, from December 8 to 21, what aspires to be the strongest chess tournament of all time. It will be a double round competition featuring Garry Kasparov and Ananly Karpov, among others.

Times book

The *Times Winning Moves 2* contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing). Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

JIRBLE
a. A per rodent
h. Pour and shake liquid
c. To talk indistinctly

HACHURE
a. A heraldic display
b. Gradient lines
c. A vegetable soup

JACKMAN
a. A retainer
b. An itinerant bookseller
c. Service receiver at Eton Fives

Answers on page 48

MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Lima-Quinn, Erevan Olympiad 1996. How did White swiftly prove, with some sacrificial fireworks, that his powerful passed pawns were worth more than a piece?

Solution on page 48

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Pitches like this are being suspected of foul play

SOUTHAMPTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

FOCUS

In search of future cures

Pat Blair introduces a three-page report on Southampton's medical school, 25 years old and still in the forefront of research and training

When Southampton Medical School was inaugurated on October 29, 1971, it was opened by Sir Keith Joseph, then Secretary of State for Social Services. It was one of only three medical schools opened in this century, the others being Nottingham and Leicester.

Uniquely, however, the Southampton school was conceived jointly by the university and what was then the regional health authority of the NHS. They saw it as an unparalleled opportunity to set up a regional organisation in which service, education and research could support each other.

That was not the only respect in which it was unique among medical schools. From their first term, students were in contact with patients, albeit gradually at first.

There was also what Professor (now Sir) Donald Acheson, the founding Dean of Medicine, called "the boldest innovation in the Southampton course". Students would be expected to spend their fourth year in research — apart from a day of clinical work a week and six weeks' elective clinical work — studying a subject in depth and presenting their dissertations for scrutiny at their annual scientific conference.

"It was ahead of its time, in

that medical students went out into primary care to local district general hospitals in the area not just to the teaching hospital," says David Moss, chief executive of the Southampton University Hospital Trust, which has close links with both the medical school and the university.

The medical faculty comprises four schools, each with its own head: the School of Medicine; the School of Nursing and Midwifery; the School of Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy; one of only two combined schools in the UK; and the School of Biological Sciences.

The NHS trust is closely involved in the student curriculum. Its director of medical education sits on the faculty's education committee.

"Obviously we have a big input to the delivery of those curriculums: our consultants teach and our services provide exposure for students," says Mr Moss.

"There is more focus on research now," says Professor Thomas, mentioning the change in the medical school's grants for new research: in 1991, £3.1 million; by 1995-96 £14 million.

In 1992, the then regional health authority, in collaboration with the university, set up the Wessex Institute with the idea of rejuvenating public health and health services



A student researcher: students are expected to spend their fourth year on research

the emphasis and expectation of clinical academics have also altered. All medical schools, when considering new appointments, now take more account of people's research abilities.

"There is more focus on research now," says Professor Thomas, mentioning the change in the medical school's grants for new research: in 1991, £3.1 million; by 1995-96 £14 million.

In 1992, the then regional health authority, in collaboration with the university, set up the Wessex Institute with the idea of rejuvenating public health and health services

research. "We've now built up quite a wide portfolio of research," says Professor John Gabbay, director of the institute. It co-ordinates the NHS's national programme for assessing health technology, which includes drugs, equipment and devices used in healthcare, as well as the way services are best organised. Each year, it sifts to about 40 research topics from the 1,000 that people in the NHS feel they might need answers to if they want to purchase or provide better health. These are then funded by the national NHS research and development programme and

commissioned from the best research groups nationwide, including Southampton.

The NHS trust is freeing space, and it will cost the school about £600,000 to expand laboratories in what is known as the Duthie-Tanovus building. Professor Thomas and his team will shortly be seeking more scientists to work in this building, taking the school further forward in its quest for excellence.

Meanwhile various events, including dances and a lecture series, are planned, both to celebrate the school's first 25 years and to raise funds for the new laboratories.

Finding the answers in cyberspace

Teaching materials will soon be available on the Internet

The medical school is the servant of the community wherever patients are being looked after, Pat Blair writes. So says Chris Thompson, a Professor of Psychiatry based at the Royal South Hants Hospital in Southampton.

"Our task," he says, "is to ensure that those students get access to medical care in the full range of facilities in which it is provided today. Not just in operating theatres but also in people's homes, day centres, day hospitals."

From its inception, Southampton exposed students to patients within weeks of their starting medical education, a practice that has since spread to many other medical schools.

It has several advantages, Professor Thompson says, as it allows students to learn how multidisciplinary teams work. "In psychiatry, students track community psychiatric nurses, to see how they work: they go with consultant psychiatrists to see patients in their homes. A lot of psychiatry is carried out this way now, so it is essential that students see modern practice."

It was also important for students to see patients when they were normal, at home, to take into account the impact of an illness on the family.

He cites the case of a man in his fifties, retired on medical grounds because of severe manic depression. "When I took over his care, his wife was at the end of her tether because she wasn't coping. He had had about two relapses a year for the previous five years. She was asking me to do a frontal lobotomy, like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*."

He refused. There were other treatments to try. Within two months the man

was discharged from hospital. "We did one other crucial thing apart from giving him the right treatment. We said to his wife: you're the expert on his condition. When you see him getting ill, phone us urgently and we promise to respond immediately. After a while, when she trusted us, it lowered her anxiety about getting treatment when he needed it."



Professor Chris Thompson of the Royal South Hants

Today, the couple has a happy married and social life.

Depression is an important focus of research in Southampton, from basic sciences through treatment to the delivery of care. Here, computer technology is beginning to play a significant part in teaching and learning. An interactive computer program, printed on to CD and delivered on a laptop, has already won an award from the British Institute of Multimedia Art.

Aimed at GPs and dealing with depression, it uses high-quality video of a

patient entering as if consulting the viewer, the doctor. The doctor has a multiple-choice bank of questions depending on the question asked, the patient will answer.

"You drive the interview almost like a real interview," says Professor Thompson. Once information has been elicited, the doctor is asked to make a diagnosis. If it is incorrect, the program says why, pointing out missed aspects of symptoms.


The CD carries information about depression, together with drug treatments, appropriate psychological and social approaches and the scientific literature that supports the treatment options.

Soon they will be producing undergraduate teaching materials on CD. That will lead us on towards providing that over the Internet, so when our students are situated in placements around Wessex, they will be able to go to a computer terminal linked to the Internet and tap in to their own Southampton University interactive psychiatry textbook."

He is now forming partnerships with commercial organisations to expand and speed up the work. "We think we should have it all on line by the middle of next year," he says.

It is unlikely to put psychiatrists out of business. But, he says, "We think that patients need to know much more about their illnesses and the treatments being offered so they can make informed choices." Some information containing the most important points about an illness and its treatment could be tailored to patients. "It could then be delivered in GP's surgeries or in outpatient clinics."

Professor Thompson thinks production is possibly only two years away.




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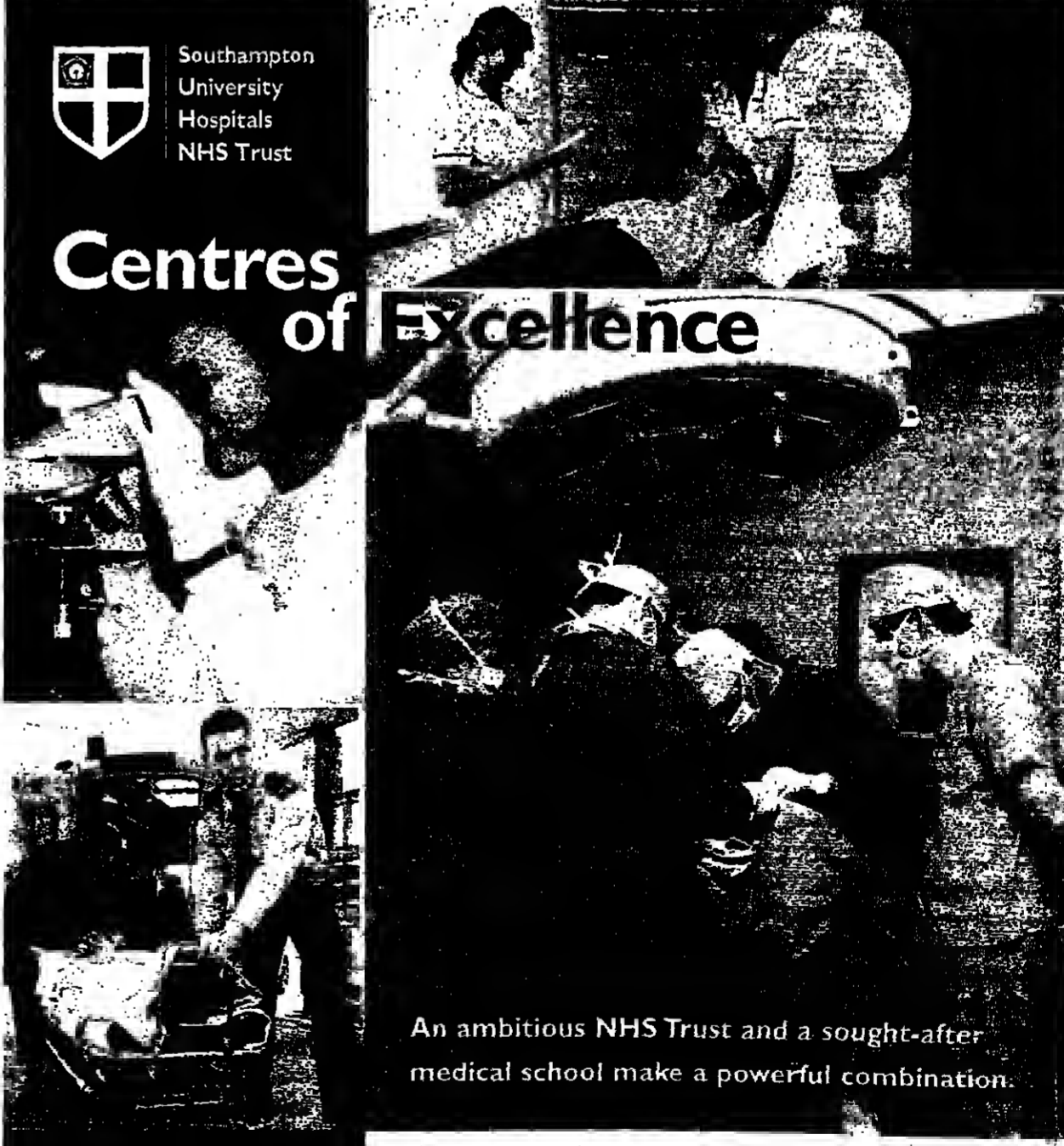
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Students at Southampton can look for inspiration to world-beating research programmes on birth weight and asthma

You are what your mother ate — and the records prove it

In medicine, genuinely fresh ideas are rare. They often originate from a new way of looking at the evidence, or a new analytical technique.

But few would have expected that poring over the records made by midwives and health visitors more than half a century ago would lead to a new perception of many modern diseases. It is the achievement of Professor David Barker and his team, at the Medical Research Council's Environmental Epidemiology Unit at Southampton, to have done just that.

In a series of studies published over the past 10 years, they have shown that the weight of a baby at birth and at one year of age is a strong predictor of its future chances of developing heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, chronic obstructive lung disease and stroke.

Poor nutrition of mothers during pregnancy handicaps their babies, and increases their chances of adding to the toll of heart disease, the Western world's greatest killer.

The pattern was first spotted by studying birth records taken by health visitors in Hertfordshire, beginning in 1911, and at a hospital in Preston a little later.

By comparing birth weights and weights at one year from the Hertfordshire records with the subsequent life histories of 6,500 men, Professor Barker found that weight at one year was a far better predictor of death from heart disease than was the cholesterol level of the men within a year or two of their deaths. The lighter babies were the ones at greater risk.

When these results first appeared, many suspected they were an artefact — that weight at birth and at one year was simply a marker for other handicaps, including poverty. But the weight of evidence continues to accumulate.

"Identical results have now been produced in Sweden and in the US," says Professor Barker. "It's



Professor Barker with the records that prompted his theories about birth weight as a predictor

very important to have independent replication of the results, and very gratifying that they confirm what we found."

The work cuts through some of the "paradoxes" which long surrounded dietary theories of heart disease. For example, if a rich diet is the problem, why are deaths from heart disease commoner among the poor? Heart disease began, after all, as a disease of the affluent.

The model explains that by pointing out that the affluent were the first to enjoy a richer diet as adults, for which their experience in the womb had not prepared them. This means that heart disease first affected the rich, with poorer people following. In this way, the rise and now the decline of heart disease rates followed half a century behind the foetal experiences that helped to determine it.

The team is conducting a big new study to build on this success. Two groups of 1,000 women, one in India and the other in Southampton, have been followed during their pregnancies, and their diets recorded. When they had their babies, records of birth weights and other details were taken.

"In a couple of years we will follow up by measuring the blood pressure in these babies," Professor Barker says. "We don't need to wait until they are adult and have developed diseases — we can tell much sooner than that."

He expects that blood pressure in the infants will conform to the pattern already established from the historical records: the lighter babies have higher blood pressure.

The work is also producing indications of what it is about maternal diet that influences the baby's fate. "It obviously can't be

simply a lack of food," he says. "Not many people in the West suffer from that any more." What is emerging is that there is a balance between protein and carbohydrate in early pregnancy that needs to be maintained if the baby is to develop in an optimum way.

If being too small at birth is not a good thing, should we all be aiming to produce huge babies? Not necessarily so, because the evidence is that heavy babies are more likely to suffer from breast, ovary and prostate cancers.

It looks as if there is a balance to be struck in a mother's nutrition during pregnancy to achieve the best chance of long life and health for her baby. Over the next few years, Professor Barker and his team will be trying to establish what that balance is.

NIGEL HAWKES

Seeking answers to the genetic mysteries of asthma

Asthma affects 11 per cent of adults and up to 20 per cent of children in Britain — yet it barely exists in the rest of the animal kingdom. Why is it unique to human beings?

In three or four centres in the UK, including Southampton, scientists are seeking the answer to that question.

"We are way ahead of America and most of Europe," says Stephen Holgate, Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Southampton, "because we've been studying human disease, whereas many other institutions have been trying to model it in animals."

One answer may lie in genes. Asthma is known to cluster in families, so Southampton researchers are comparing blood samples in families where asthma is prevalent, looking for a linkage between markers.

"If you show that a particular marker moves with a disease through multiple families, you know you have an area of the chromosome that's generally important in the disease," says Professor Holgate. "We've found two, possibly three areas of great interest."

A second approach, about to start, is a random human gene search, where markers are placed at regular intervals along the whole human genome and then tracked with the movement of the disease through families. That may lead to the discovery of other areas of chromosome involved in asthma. The aim is to identify those at risk of developing asthma from an early age, and perhaps prevent it; to provide new targets for drugs; and to learn more about the mechanisms of asthma.

The research shows that about 80 per cent of all severe asthma attacks lasting more than two days are virus-related rather than, as most people think, due to allergies.

"So you have an interaction between allergens, which underlie the onset of the disease through the



Professor Stephen Holgate: the team is ahead of America

genetic predisposition, over linking to viruses which can feed off this and make it worse," Professor Holgate explains. In the department of child health, meanwhile, Professor John Warner and his team are discovering that even at birth there appears to be a defect in the production of the substance encoded on chromosome 12 that suppresses an asthma attack.

They are investigating the environmental influences affecting the foetus and new-born baby that may trigger allergic disease, particularly asthma, in those who have a genetic predisposition.

Professor Warner says: "Even if you inherit the genes for an allergic problem from your parents, you don't necessarily develop the problem. We believe that the genes that predispose you to aller-

gy are common in the population; it might even be normal to have them because they influence the immune response that allows you to fight against parasitic infections."

The Southampton team has found there is more happening antenatally than was previously believed. Contrary to previous belief, says Professor Warner, "most of the immune system is very mature by birth and a lot of the primary events that set the immune system going have occurred during pregnancy."

This could include babies already being "switched on" to react in an allergic way to milk, eggs, house mites or animal hairs, "even in the womb". They also know that if the switch-on is detected at birth as being excessive, many of those babies go on to get develop allergic problems.

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Why a student searched for surfers

The research projects undertaken by Southampton's students are many and various, reports Pat Blair — but all have to be presented to a conference

Last month the current crop of fourth-year students at Southampton Medical School started to take stock of a wide range of subjects for potential research. It is a feature of the school that though fourth-year students are expected to do a clinical speciality with clinical attachments, they are also expected to concentrate on research.

Each student chooses his or her own area of interest, which may be in clinical or basic science fields, and studies one aspect of it in depth. The range of subjects researched, written up in a 5,000-word dissertation, presented and justified to the annual conference in May, is as great as the number of students.

One student, about three years ago, roamed beaches around Southampton to find wind surfers. After measuring sea contamination around the South Coast, she was trying to find a connection with cases of gastroenteritis, diarrhoea and vomiting among people who had been in the sea.

Currently, there are research studies involving the incidence of asthma in children, growing cancer cells in culture, and microscopic experiments in physiology and biochemistry.

"It's a huge range of projects," says Rod Thompson, Professor of Clinical Biochemistry and the fourth year co-ordinator. And it is complicated to run so many projects across the whole medical school in a wide variety of fields.

Not many student conferences can, however, boast such eminent speakers as the Nobel Prize winner James Watson, of DNA fame, Baroness Warnock and Sir Donald Acheson, the former Chief Medical Officer. It is a measure of the success of the medical school's approach that such luminaries appear pleased to be invited by students presenting their own scientific studies.

The point of this approach,

as well as acquiring research methods and skills, is to help them develop inquiring minds and to develop their independence as learners.

"We want them to learn to be able to appraise research evidence critically," says Professor John Gabbay, who is part of a team reviewing the fourth year project. "We think that doctors ought to be able to do that but are often not properly trained." "We want them to be able to understand the nature and context of research and how it informs practice, and we believe it is best to learn about research by doing some at a reasonable amount of depth, preferably in a clinical context."

"We think it's very important that students learn to think for themselves and have a culture of inquiry rather than of receiving wisdom from on high."

Though some projects do find their way into scientific journals, which subsequently looks good on CVs, that is not the point of the exercise. "In our view, the assessment should be looking at the process, rather than the outcome of the research project," says Professor Gabbay.

Professor Thompson adds: "All the students get useful experience of research methods. It stands them in good stead in whatever branch of medicine they finish up." Apart from those who take up research posts, some Southampton graduates continue their interest in research once they leave medical school.

One London GP, Mark Ashworth, who graduated in 1979 and who has just received a £52,000 research grant to study respite care, says that it was without doubt his fourth year project that nurtured his interest in research. "I don't think I would still be doing research otherwise," he says.

He had been studying symptoms of wheat allergy. "We even thought we'd identified new symptoms." It opened his eyes. He says: "It was exciting; there were discover-

ies waiting to be made out there."

Professor Gabbay's hope is to find a way of evaluating properly the extent to which this happens and the proportion of students who are similarly inspired.

Today, there are 15 applications for each of the 165 available places at the school. From the outset, Southampton set aside places for graduates and mature students. They now form about 18 per cent of the annual intake. Although many have come from related disciplines, such as dentistry, chemistry and physiotherapy, they have also embraced people who have decided to change career entirely. These have included engineers, social workers and submariners, one of whom is now a GP with the Royal Navy.

"They're extremely committed," says Professor Thompson. "My experience is that people who come into medicine late work very hard and do well. Most people who have experience of mature students find them a success."

Professor Eric Thomas, the head of the School of Medicine, comments: "Mature graduates are usually highly motivated and well-focused. The down side is that they can be self-oriental."



Southampton students with David Barrett, orthopaedic surgeon. Later they will have to present their own research

Primary care caught by the throat

Many people go to family doctors complaining of sore throats. Should they be given antibiotics immediately, or if they don't clear up within a few days? Or do they make no difference? What do patients think about antibiotics? Would they go back to their doctor about a sore throat?

The answers to some of these questions may influence how GPs nationwide treat the problem. They have been posed in one of the largest studies of sore throat treatments ever done in Britain in

general practice. The results will be published soon.

The pilot study and part of the main project were carried out at Aldermoor Health Centre. It is a normal health centre, with four full-time doctors caring for 8,000 patients. But it is also Southampton medical school's general practice unit for teaching and research. "Not all our research is done through the practice, although some is," says Dr Jenny Field, senior lecturer in primary medical care. "But the practice has been enormously valuable in

carrying out pilot projects, in recruiting patients, in being a sounding board for the feasibility of projects in other practices."

The sore-throat pilot study, for example, involved an anthropologist observing patients and asking them what they thought were the important outcomes of their consultation. Their answers influenced the questionnaires used in the main project.

Between 80 and 90 per cent of all medical care in the UK is carried out not in hospital but in primary health care —

general practices, health centres, people's homes. So it is important that research is also undertaken in those settings.

Aldermoor was, for example, involved in a comparison of antibiotics versus placebo in the treatment of otitis media, inflammation of the middle ear which, in practice, means a red, painful ear.

"A lot of work was done in the practice initially, trying to identify what kinds of cars doctors would and would not treat," says Dr Field. The project showed that antibiotics reduced the length of pain

by about one day. "But to the average mother with a child with otitis media, one day's reduction to the length of pain is pretty important" she says.

Southampton believes strongly that it should provide experience of primary care and of community medical services as well as hospital-based services. More than 40 per cent of the region's GPs are involved in teaching, an unusually large proportion. And the patients? "On the whole," says Dr Field, "they are very keen to help students learn."

"There is life after surgery"

REHABILITATION is at the forefront of thinking in medical development, according to Lindsay McLellan, Europe Professor of Rehabilitation at Southampton. "We are starting to see there is perhaps more to disease than just curing pathology."

There is life beyond drugs and surgery, he says, and students need to discern not only the contribution patients make to their own recovery, but the impact of disability on the family and on life in society.

As well as doctors and nurses, there are also therapists, sociologists and a teacher among Professor McLellan's staff of 30. "Otherwise you haven't got the range of expertise you need to tackle the problems."

A research programme, funded by the Department of Health, is undertaken in the Disability Equipment Assessment Centre, one of three nationwide. Equipment used by and for disabled people is assessed: anything from a commode to a special pen for a child who cannot hold one properly. Formal reports, with user trials and guidelines for selecting appropriate equipment, are issued to all health authorities.

To the regret of Professor McLellan (who is a neurologist), the department's "least successful impact" has been on clinical services within the Southampton University Hospital Trust. He says: "There have been few rehabilitation service developments in Southampton for the past 12 years, despite a plethora of managers."

But complaints of that kind, of course, are common among medical staff in every hospital.

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Changes in GP services must pass the quality test



A nurse could be used to answer out-of-hours calls to doctors and direct them to the appropriate service

Think twice before you call your doctor. So runs the theme of a government campaign trying to stem the rise in out-of-hours calls to GPs, to enable them to concentrate on medical emergencies. Such a mass-population campaign is doomed to failure, says Dr Steve George, senior lecturer in public health medicine at Southampton Medical School. He considers that it is rather a simplistic notion to tell people only to call the doctor about important things.

"The public has no idea what's important medically and what's not," he says. "How should they? They are not experts. If they did not think it important, they would not have phoned. We really need to develop appropriate responses to the demand that is there."

Whether the increase is in after-surgery calls, or in demand for emergency ambulances, Dr George believes that new systems must be thoroughly tested before their widespread adoption. His team is investigating whether one way to meet patients'

A health expert is trying to devise ways of meeting patients' needs, while making better use of resources

needs, reduce doctors' stress and use resources better, would be to employ a nurse specifically to answer out-of-hours calls and direct them to the appropriate service.

Dr George is midway through the £500,000, three-year trial involving 50 GPs with a 100,000 patients. Under it, the duty nurse either gives advice and reassurance; puts callers through to the GP; or calls an ambulance. "People need not be afraid of calling," he says.

He also points out that what seems a great idea may not be in practice. What happens if an urgent case is missed? He says: "Not all GPs are perfect, and neither are all nurses. We need to compare them in a controlled situation."

His worry is that GPs might adopt such systems before they have been tested. In 1994, when his investigation started, none were operating

now, he says, "they're springing up all over". What happens, he wonders, if the results show they are not a good thing?

His concern is understandable. In a Department of Health-funded study four years ago at Sheffield University, Dr George caused some controversy when he found that a system designed to cut waiting times in hospital accident and emergency departments did not work. The nurse triage system — where patients are assigned a priority, such as "must be treated now", or "can wait an hour" — actually increased waiting times, especially for the most urgent cases.

Though casualties were seen by someone within five minutes — thus meeting government targets — the wait for treatment lengthened. The

previous informal system had been quicker. The Southampton team is now exploring why, despite the evidence, A&E departments are still operating triage systems.

If waiting times and GP call-outs are national concerns, so too is the general rise in 999 ambulance calls.

In an 18-month study due to end late next year, the Southampton team is reviewing ambulance records going back 10 years to try to establish why demand has risen. That, coupled with a survey of GPs' perceptions of the reasons, may give clues to better, more appropriate services nationwide.

What has been coined the evaluation bypass — "a bit of enthusiasm and a bit of ignorance and things get incorporated anyway," explains Dr George — is not good enough, he says. Only by testing what does or does not work will services meet people's real demands in the long term and that is what he and his colleagues are aiming for.

PAT BLAIR

Former tenant a tolerated trespasser

Barrows v Brent London Borough Council. Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Griffiths, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle and Lord Slynn [Speeches October 31]. In the absence of special circumstances, an agreement between a secured tenant and a landlord of property protected by Part IV of the Housing Act 1985 for the tenant to continue in possession after the date specified in a possession order did not give rise to a new secured tenancy.

on the date on which the tenant is to give up possession in pursuance of the order. Section 83 provides: (1) Where proceedings are brought for possession of a dwelling-house let under a secure tenancy (or the non-payment of rent) the court may (a) stay or suspend the execution of the order for such period or periods as it thinks fit. (2) On the making of an order for possession of such a dwelling-house on any of those grounds, or at any time before the execution of the order, the court may - (a) stay or suspend the execution of the order, or (b) postpone the date of possession, for such period or periods as the court thinks fit.

was technically no longer in existence so that the neither the repairing covenants nor the Defective Premises Act 1972 applied, the tenant could at any time go to court to revive the tenancy by varying the date on which possession was to be given. There could be little doubt that the court would make the order if the tenant had complied with the agreed conditions.

Copies were supplied in breach of undertaking

Bentley and Another v Gaisford and Another. Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Henry [Judgment October 21]. A solicitor who gave an undertaking to hold documents to the account or to the order of another firm of solicitors in the interest of preserving that firm's retainer, was in breach of the undertaking if he photocopied the documents and sent the copies to the client.

Probity reference does not guarantee identity

Gold Coin Joalliers SA v United Bank of Kuwait plc. Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Auld and Sir Patrick Russell [Judgment October 15]. A bank providing accurate information by telephone as to the financial probity of one of its customers did not thereby assume a duty of care to the inquirer as to the true identity of the customer.

call: it informed the plaintiff that Mr Al Mutawa was a respectable and trustworthy person and that he would not enter into any transaction that he could not fulfil. That conversation satisfied the plaintiff who later handed the bank a handwritten instruction to the bank to pay the plaintiff the \$450,000.

The judge had failed to direct his mind adequately to the two different types of duty under consideration and to consider what, if any, circumstances pointed to a clear assumption by the bank of a duty to the plaintiff, not to Mr Al Mutawa, as to identity, as distinct from financial probity.

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES WIN A £3,000 HOLIDAY FOR TWO IN HAWAII. Starting today The Times begins a two-week series of competitions and exclusive offers to world-wide destinations in association with Cox & Kings, one of Britain's leading travel firms.

When accused fails to answer questions. Regina v Condron (William) Regina v Condron (Karen). Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Mummery and Lord Justice Moses [Judgment October 17]. The essential points recommended in R v Cowan [1994] QB 373 to be included in a judge's direction to the jury as to what inferences they could reasonably draw from the accused's failure to give evidence also applied where a jury was being reminded of the circumstances in which a proper inference might be drawn where the accused had failed to answer questions when interviewed.

Firearms offence sentences

Regina v Clarke (Terry). In sentencing an offender for possession of a firearm without a certificate it was no longer appropriate to apply authorities arising before the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

When accused fails to answer questions

Regina v Condron (William) Regina v Condron (Karen). Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Mummery and Lord Justice Moses [Judgment October 17]. The essential points recommended in R v Cowan [1994] QB 373 to be included in a judge's direction to the jury as to what inferences they could reasonably draw from the accused's failure to give evidence also applied where a jury was being reminded of the circumstances in which a proper inference might be drawn where the accused had failed to answer questions when interviewed.

asked at interview and his explanations for his failure could be tested in cross-examination. If defence counsel wished to submit that the judge should not invite the jury to consider drawing adverse inferences in the ordinary way that submission should be made in the absence of the jury at the conclusion of the evidence.

Starting today The Times begins a two-week series of competitions and exclusive offers to world-wide destinations in association with Cox & Kings, one of Britain's leading travel firms. Today, in the first of six competitions this week, readers have the chance to win a 14-day holiday for two to the Hawaiian islands of Oahu and Maui with United Vacations.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Main table of equity prices with columns for company name, price, change, and various financial ratios. Includes sub-sections for ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BANKS, BREWERIES PUBS & REST, DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS, ENGINEERING VEHICLES, FOOD MANUFACTURERS, LEISURE & HOTELS, MEDICAL & HEALTHCARE, OIL & GAS, RETAILERS FOOD, RETAILERS GENERAL, TRANSPORT, WATER, and ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET.

Advertisement for First Direct banking services. Text: 'Free banking night and day for 24 hour telephone banking 0800 24 24 24'. Includes details about 24-hour service and account opening.

TODAY

Interims: Blacks Leisure, Capital Gearing Trust, London & Overseas Freighters, Shoprite Group, Telewest Communications Cable (G3), UMECO.
Finals: Associated British Foods.
Economic statistics: UK provisional M0 figures for October, UK September housing starts and completions, US September construction spending, September industrial output for Japan.

TOMORROW

Interims: Anlian Water, British Airways, British Petroleum (G3), Dairy Crest Group, Marks & Spencer, Mercury Asset Management, National Grid, Powerscreen International, Whitbread.
Finals: Bellway, Carlton Communications, Frederick Cooper, Creston Land & Estates, Lowland Investment Company, Stratagen.
Economic statistics: UK September industrial and manufacturing output, US presidential election, US September housing completions, Bundesbank calls for repos.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Charlaa Stanley Group, Johnson Group Cleaners, Luminar, Westbury.
Finals: MMT Computing, Northern Venture Trust, UFF Group.
Economic statistics: UK October car registrations, UK Bank of England Inflation Report, Bundesbank awards repos.

THURSDAY

Interims: Boots, Cullen's Holdings, Hambro Insurance, Raymond Industrial, Somlc, Stealey Industries, Warner Howard, Yates Brothers Wine Lodges.
Finals: J Bibby, Burton Group, Kwik Sava Group, J Smart & Co (Contractors).
Economic statistics: Confederation of British Industry distributive trades survey for October, US weekly jobless claims, US non-farm productivity (G3), US September consumer credit, Bundesbank council meeting.

FRIDAY

Interims: English National Investment, Skandia Insurance, Unilever (G3).
Finals: None scheduled.

COMPANIES MICHAEL CLARK



M&S aims to be top of the shops

MARKS & SPENCER: The jewel in the high street crown, as it is often described, aims to be the first to shine tomorrow in a week that sees several top retailers displaying their wares. The City is hoping for positive news from the group at the half-way stage, since the figures will be accompanied by a presentation for brokers, for the first time at this stage of proceedings.
The improvement in consumer confidence during the past year should be reflected in pre-tax profits growing from £387.1 million to between £443 million and £460 million. Earnings per share are expected to have grown by between 15 and 20 per cent, to about 11p. Sales during the first quarter were almost 9 per cent ahead, with M&S probably raising its share of the market.
Financial services are expected to show a solid improvement, and the performance of overseas stores is also expected to be better. Shareholders should be rewarded with a 1p increase in the dividend to 3.5p.

BURTON GROUP: There should be a similar message from Burton Group, whose chief executive is John Hoerner, when it reports full-year figures on Thursday. The estimate for pre-tax profits ranges from £145 million to £150 million, compared with £93.1 million last time.
A trading statement in July indicated sales growth of more than 10 per cent, with gross margins up by about 2 percentage points. Little is likely to have happened to spoil that picture.
Earnings should be up by 50 per cent, to 7.7p a share, although expansion plans, which include acquisitions, may serve to slow overall progress. Margins have continued to improve throughout the year. A 1p rise in the net dividend to 2.7p is forecast.

BOOTS: The prospect of an end to price controls on over-the-counter drug sales has overshadowed the group in recent weeks, but should do nothing to detract from a bumper set of half-year figures on Thursday. These are expected to reveal pre-tax profits of between £230 million and £235



John Hoerner, chief executive, is expected to report positive full-year results for Burton Group

million, compared with £217.9 million last time.
First-quarter sales at its chemist shops were 6.6 per cent higher on the back of a strong performance by own-label goods. The improved housing market will have been good news for the company's Do It All and AG Stanley stores. However, the buyback of 51.36 million shares at 580p will have held back profits, as will the absorption of 100 per cent of the Do It All losses.

BRITISH PETROLEUM: The strength of crude oil prices on world markets should be fully reflected in third-quarter figures tomorrow, with net income up from £596 million to between £630 million and £636 million. This boost to upstream activities should more than compensate for any decline downstream, such as refining and chemical production. Nevertheless, earnings are unlikely to show the sort of growth achieved in the second quarter because of a squeeze on refining margins caused by the rapid rise in the price of oil and the lag in realising higher prices for Alaskan oil production.

UNILEVER: Growing one-off charges are expected to take the gloss off third-quarter performance when the Anglo-Dutch group reports on Friday. Pre-tax profits up from £786 million to between £804 million and £820 million are forecast after an increase in "exceptional" charges of £33 million to £30 million, reflecting the acquisition of Diversy. Earnings should have kept pace, with a rise of 2 per cent to 26.5p per share.
ANGLIAN WATER: Half-year figures tomorrow are unlikely to

match last week's performance from Thames. Pre-tax profits are expected to be up about £4 million at £130 million, although some brokers forecast a slight downturn. As with all water companies, interest will be focused on the dividend, which should be up by about 18 per cent, at 10.5p net. The figures will have been bolstered by an increase in new connections, but held back by the cost of financing last year's share buyback.

ABF: Brokers will be looking for evidence of a slowdown when Associated British Foods publishes full-year figures this morning. Brokers are looking for an 11 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to about £415 million, with earnings growing 8 per cent, to 30p per share. Retail operations in Britain and Ireland will provide the main boost to profits, with British Sugar suffering from a rundown in stocks of sugar. Once again, the figure will be boosted by returns on cash, which are thought to have risen from £601 million to £735 million.

WHITBREAD: Half-year figures tomorrow will be bolstered by recent acquisitions, including David Lloyd and Marriott, the hotel chain. Pre-tax profit estimates range from £170 million to £173 million, compared with £156 million last time. The contribution from the new acquisitions is expected to be about £17 million, helping to offset any slowdown on the restaurant and leisure side after last year's strong growth.
Profits from brewing and pubs are expected to be up on last year in spite of continuing competition from duty-free "booze cruises". The net payout is likely to grow by 8 per cent, to 6.2p.

NATIONAL GRID: Interim figures out tomorrow will be the first since the group accepted the tough pricing policy of RPI minus 4 per cent proposed by the regulator after the company's stock market debut. Pre-tax profits are expected to be up from £278.9 million to £304 million, with the group having already forecast a 9 per cent increase in the payout to 4.45p per share.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Inflation in the spotlight

The Bank of England's quarterly *Inflation Report* will come under careful scrutiny when it is published on Wednesday, as the City hunts for any evidence that the Bank wants further base rate increases. Economists are divided on whether the Bank believes last week's quarter-point rise is sufficient tightening. However, combined with the recent rise in sterling, the Chancellor's move may have done just enough to ease the Bank's pressure for rate increases.

The September figures for industrial production and manufacturing output, to be published on Tuesday, are the most important domestic statistics. Friday's increase in the purchasing managers index backed evidence from other data, such as the CBI quarterly industrial trends survey, which have shown output picking up in recent months. MMS International expects this to be reflected in the official figures, after the output fall in August, with manufacturing output expected to show a 0.7 per cent monthly increase, taking annual growth to 0.4 per cent.

The CBI distributive trades survey, to be released on Wednesday, is likely to show continued growth in consumer spending.

Figures for M0, the measure of narrow money supply, will be published today. MMS predicts a rise in the annual rate from 7 per cent to 7.3 per cent for October.

The US scene will be dominated by tomorrow's elections, with the markets' biggest concern being the Federal Reserve Bank's reaction if the Democrats win back Congress. Analysts predict that the Fed could quickly raise rates if it believes the Democrats are about to loosen fiscal policy.

In Germany, the Bundesbank Council is to meet on Thursday, but policy changes are not expected. On Monday, German manufacturing output figures for September are expected to show strong growth of 0.3 per cent. However, an expected rise in the jobless figures should ease worries on inflation.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy British Aerospace, Mayflower, Gearhouse; Hold Creston Land. The Observer: Sell Stakis. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Chemring; Sell J Sainsbury, British Biotech. The Mail on Sunday: Buy Alca; Sell Verity, Bellway. The Express: Buy DCS Group, Parly. Independent on Sunday: Buy Farepak; Hold Unilever. Sunday Business: Buy British Petroleum; Sell Boots.



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Martyn Doherty, Car Group's managing director, at the successful Car Supermarket at Cannock in the Midlands

Car Group float heralds 'supermarket' expansion

By Jason Nisse

A MOTOR dealer floating on the stock market next month aims to revolutionise the buying of cars by investing up to £250 million in building a chain of a dozen car supermarkets stretching from Kent to Strathclyde.

ITN fights pensions ruling

By CAROLINE MERRELL

ITN has launched a legal challenge to a decision by the Pensions Ombudsman to uphold a claim by one of its former employees for guaranteed pension increases.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
No 009723 of 1996
IN THE MATTER OF COMBINED LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES
ATKINSON, JAMES ATKINSON late of 121, Park Road, London SW10 2JL died on 15 September 1995

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Welcome lift for AIM

The Alternative Investment Market showed signs of picking up again last week, with three new issues and increased levels of trading.

Table with columns for 1996 High/Low, Mkt cap (million), Price (pence), Why +/-, Yld %, P/E, and company names like 1470 AFA Systems, 1500 AMCO Corp, etc.

TOURIST RATES

Table with columns for Bank, Buy, Sell, Rate, and Bank for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 41
JIRBLE
To spill (a liquid) by shaking or unsteady moving of the vessel to pour out unsteadily; hence, to pour (liquid) from vessel to vessel.

INTERNET NAME REGISTRY

Internet Name Registration

To protect your company and trading names you need to register them now.

Advertisement for NetNames, including contact information: FREEPHONE 0800 269049, netnames@netnames.co.uk, and a list of countries where NetNames registers names.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, including 'New CV merger' and 'BASE'.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Lyons' share for students

STUART LYONS has shown an unexpected poetic streak. The chairman and chief executive of Royal Doulton has translated into English all 103 of Horace's odes...

BELATED congratulations to the Body Shop, winners of the PR Week Best International Campaign Award.

Nick's knack WH SMITH is playing Cupid in the love life of Only Fools and Horses actor Nicholas Lyndhurst.

WORD has it that Helen Bowden, former presenter of Woman's Hour and editor of news/current affairs of BBC Radio North...

Silly aisles GET OUT those pension books, put on those glad rags, and boogie on down to your local Asda.

Team talk THE Broomfield League kicks off at Broadgate today, with more than 100 firms set to play about 1,000 matches.

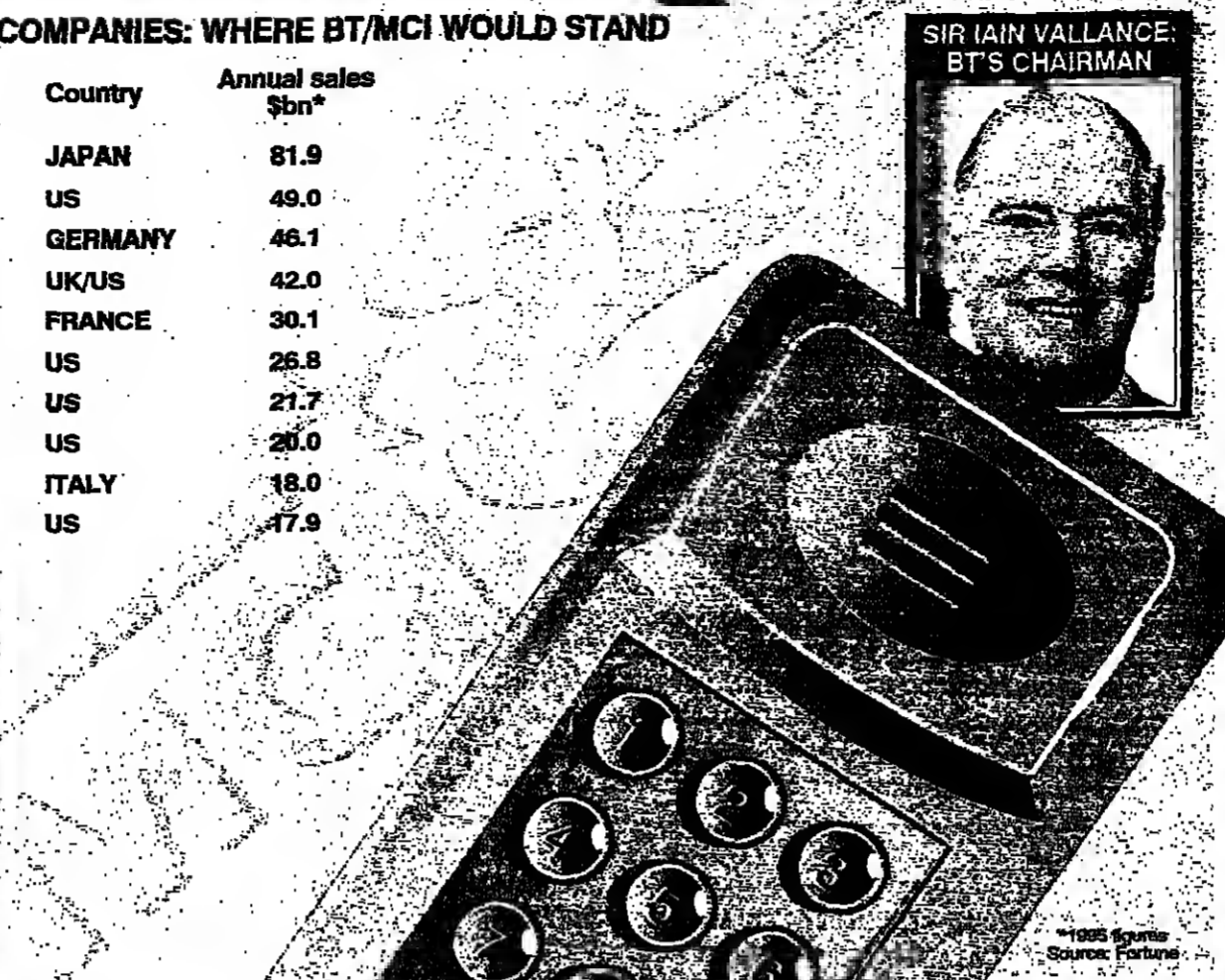
Bluff called EMPLOYEES at Winterflood Securities watched in amazement as managing director Brian Winterflood's legendary tan turned an unnatural shade of red.

MORAG PRESTON

BT JOINS THE GIANTS CONCERT

TOP 10 TELECOMS COMPANIES: WHERE BT/MCI WOULD STAND

Table with 3 columns: Company, Country, Annual sales \$bn*. Lists NTT (Japan, 81.9), AT&T (US, 49.0), Deutsche Telekom (Germany, 46.1), BT/MCI (UK/US, 42.0), France Telecom (France, 30.1), Bell Atlantic/Nynex (US, 26.8), SBC/Pacific Telesis (US, 21.7), GTE (US, 20.0), Telecom Italia (Italy, 18.0), Bellsouth (US, 17.9).



BT takes a gamble on buccaneering MCI

British Telecom might end up locked in a price war with powerful competitors, says Carl Mortished

When a chief executive talks global, you can bet that his real concerns are more parochial. British Telecom and MCI formally launched their merger proposal yesterday and the terms of the deal certainly make impressive reading.

services. Such investments are likely to continue or even accelerate: the battle for customers in the US market is focusing on how to offer a bundle of services to the phone users. Typically, the deal will be local and long-distance traffic, mobile phone and internet access.

Rate rise was a welcome stitch in time

After last week's rate rise, markets have built in a big premium for UK interest rate risks over the next couple of years. Interest rate futures project that UK three-month rates will rise sharply next year and, from late 1997 onwards, will be the highest in the G7.

put growth is stronger in Germany than in the UK. UK inflation prospects are similar to the G7 norm. Nominal GDP is growing at about the same rate as in the US, and below the 5 per cent rate that the Bank of England thinks consistent with the inflation target.

Bequests to the nation

The Heritage Quiz, Radio 4, 12.25pm. I welcome the return of this good-natured testing ground of knowledge about our cultural heritage.

The Monday Play: Bleat, Radio 4, 7.45pm. Brick by rough brick, reinforced with steel, whenever it shows signs of collapsing into crude melodrama.

RADIO CHOICE

- Radio 4: 6.30am Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa Farnson with Simply Red's Mark Hudson... Radio 2: 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan... Radio 5 Live: 5.00am Morning Reports... TALK RADIO: 5.00am Early Breakfast... VIRGIN RADIO: 6.00am Russ 'n' John's Breakfast... RADIO 3: 7.30 Before and after the Reformation... RADIO 4 (continued): 5.55am Shipping Forecast... 7.20 The Food Programme... 8.45 Irish Icons... 9.30 Kaleidoscope... 10.00 The World Tonight... 10.45 Book At Bedtime... 11.00 Beyond Reasonable Doubt... 11.30 If You're Clever, Why Aren't You Rich?... 12.00 News and Current Affairs... 12.30 The Late Book: First Church of the New Millennium... 12.45 Shipping 1.00 As World Service

LOOK BACK IN ANGORA TUESDAY TO FRIDAY TOPM. BOB MILLS' MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY. WATCH 25 YEARS OF BAD HAIR, STRANGE SHIRTS AND GREAT MUSIC VIDEOS. available via cable and satellite.

EU to call time for Major over 48-hour week

The opposing armies are drawn up facing each other, pennants fluttering in the breeze, backbenchers and spin-doctors await only the order to attack. The election battle over Europe begins in eight days.

On November 12, the European Court of Justice will, barring an unimaginable change of heart, rule against Britain and say that the EU's directive capping the length of the working week at 48 hours is legal. Since noise and smoke are about to obliterate this issue for perhaps six months, here are some truths about the social chapter.

John Major claims that the 48-hour week rule breaches a promise given five years ago at Maastricht that EU social law would not apply to Britain. Answering a question in the Commons about the 48-hour week last July, the Prime Minister said he had "reached an agreement on ensuring that we were not covered by that at Maastricht, and I intend that that agreement shall be kept. Our colleagues in Europe need not expect that we will reach further agreements at the next inter-governmental conference unless they are prepared to restore the agreement."

This daisy chain of mistaken assumptions reveals Mr Major to be in the realms of fantasy. His opposite numbers in the EU have not breached faith because they have not given him any blanket immunity from social law. At Maastricht, Britain opted out of seven social policy clauses, better known as the "social chapter", in the new treaty. The Government remains involved in, and bound by, any social rules agreed under other, older bits of the treaty.

The 48-hour week proposal was born before the social chapter was even thought of. Britain was fully involved in several sterile years of debate over the directive and managed to carve out a number of exemptions and delays that will soften its impact when it comes into force here.

By seeking to cancel Britain's agreement to the directive and to be insulated from any such thing in the future, Mr Major is asking for a bigger, better social opt-out than the one he has. His EU partners will refuse. Tory ministers will enter the election campaign pledged to wreck or indefinitely delay the treaty conference until their wishes



THIS WEEK IN EUROPE

are met. The rest of the EU will be fearful, fidgety and impatient to be dealing with Labour. On what its commitment to join the social chapter will mean in practice, Labour will shilly-shally in front of businessmen who value the social opt-out. No real bargaining can take place until the election result is in.

Several lessons emerge first that Mr Major is both loser and winner. Continental custom and practice is moving away from working hours limits. Virtually all EU governments except Britain limited the working week before the directive was agreed; some now wish they did not. Most governments in Western Europe are lightening labour regulation at the request of business and industry. The writers of the directive who thought that shortening working hours helps create jobs are watching the evidence stack up against them. Two French studies have just found no connection between shorter working hours and job creation.

The second lesson applies to Labour as much as to the Tories since it concerns the quality of British decision-making on matters European. British ministers think that their partners played "dirty pool" in making the 48-hour rule a health and safety measure.

Continental politicians and judges think working hours are naturally to do with health and safety and that it is equally obvious for an EU treaty to reflect this. Anglo-Saxon and Rhine-land capitalism are in straightened conflict.

When interests clash, a government negotiating an EU directive being pushed by a majority needs one of three things: an opt-out, good lawyers to spot hidden dangers and to weaken the text or a plausible, and soothing explanation for voters about why Britain lost out. On the 48-hour week, Mr Major has none of these.

Leading article, page 23
GEORGE BROCK

Papal Mass marks 50 years in the priesthood

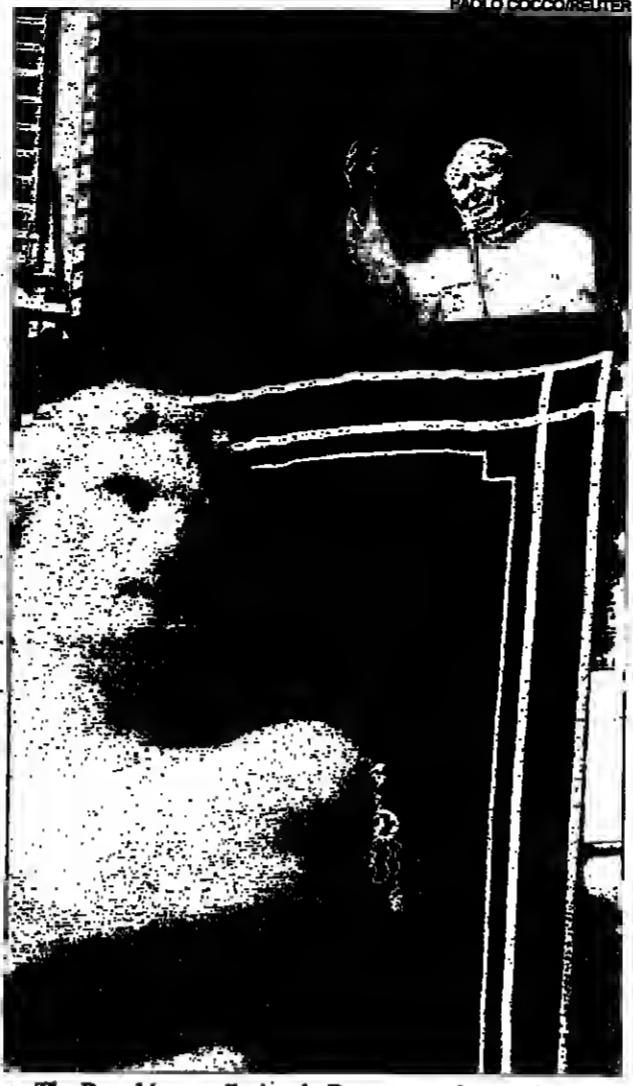
FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE Pope celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination at the weekend, and told how he wrote his memoirs during his summer retreat in the mountains while waiting to enter hospital to have his appendix removed.

Vatican officials said the autobiography, *Gift and Mystery*, would be published before the end of the year in several languages.

But it was unlikely to deal with controversial issues of his 18-year papacy, such as the 1981 attempt on his life or his role in the fall of Communism in Eastern Europe. Instead it would focus on his youth, the Second World War and his career as bishop and cardinal in Cracow before being elected pontiff in 1978.

The Pope appeared tired at the Mass commemorating his ordination in 1946. He recalled the horrors of Nazi-occupied Poland, the loss of most of his immediate family, and his decision at the age of 26 to give up a theatre career for the priesthood.



The Pope blesses pilgrims in Rome yesterday at a Mass in which he recalled the horror of Nazi-rule in Poland

Milosevic Socialists poised for victory in Yugoslav election

BY DESSA TREVISAN

THE Socialists of President Milosevic of Serbia were poised for victory as about seven million apathetic Serbs went to the polls yesterday to elect the lower chamber of the 138-seat federal Yugoslav parliament as well as local and municipal authorities.

During the morning it was the elderly, barely surviving on frugal, irregular monthly cheques, who queued at Belgrade polling stations, most of them bewildered by the lists. They are safe voters for the regime, fearing they might find themselves even without the little they do get. After years of defiance, the Serbs have slumped into apathy and the mood is that there is not much to choose between the regime and opposition — "they are all the same".

The election is being boycotted by two million Albanians in Kosovo. Since President Milosevic abolished the region's autonomy and imposed martial law in 1989 the Albani-

ans have elected and set up their own parallel parliament and government, most of whose members are in exile, with Dr Ibrahim Rugova their president.

They are set on full autonomy and are doggedly and patiently pursuing that goal, knowing that Mr Milosevic eventually will concede what-

East Europe at the polls

Petar Stoyanov, the Bulgarian opposition candidate, was heading for victory yesterday in the country's presidential elections, according to exit polls (Our Foreign Staff write). In Bucharest, also yesterday, efforts by President Iliescu of Romania to win re-election may be thwarted by widespread corruption allegations.

ever the West tells him to.

The election for the Yugoslav federal parliament is crucial for Mr Milosevic, who is aspiring to the post of President of Yugoslavia (Serbia plus Montenegro) after his term as President of Serbia expires next year.

Under the Serbian constitution he cannot be elected for a third term. He might try to amend the constitution, should the presidency of Yugoslavia not be forthcoming, but to do that he needs a two-thirds majority in the Serbian parliament. For the presidency of Yugoslavia he needs a simple majority in the federal parliament. Even a marginal victory should allow him to achieve that ambition.

An indication that Mr Milosevic will become President of Yugoslavia comes in reports that the old presidential residence occupied by President Tito, who ruled until his death in 1980, is being redecorated and refurbished.



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Marcus du Sautoy asks how we can look at multidimensional shapes when we are equipped with only 3-D vision

Chart the realm of the fourth dimension

You have just turned to the science page of *The Times*. To do so, your brain sent a message in arm — one dimension for each muscle involved.

Multidimensional space surely belongs to Hollywood sci-fi movies or H.G. Wells short stories. But in *Cambridge today*, fiction becomes a reality. For the next six weeks, the Newton Institute is playing host to mathematicians from around the world who have been blessed with a special talent — an ability to see in four dimensions.

Most of us are happy with the idea of three spatial dimensions. Asked what is the fourth dimension, those who have read their Hawking will probably reply "time". For scientists, it has become important to keep track not only of someone's position but the time they are at that position.

But in daily life we are dealing not only with four but many dimensions, or variables. Turning a page — each muscle counts as a variable — is one example. The economy is another. Any government's economic decisions can be viewed as a journey through a space with many dimensions, one for interest rates, another for inflation etc.

Eddie George and Kenneth Clarke are just like two explorers deciding each month which way to turn next in this multidimensional economic world. Setting off in one direction on interest rates, it is difficult to assess whether, in the inflationary direction, they will hit a hill or slide down a valley.

For many problems from physics to economics, it is important to know what possible shapes can exist in these multidimensional worlds.

But how can we look at these shapes when we are equipped only with three-dimensional vision? One approach is to look at the way we build three-dimensional objects out of two-dimensional shapes. For example, take six squares arranged in the shape of a cross. We can fold this figure to make a cube in three

dimensions. Well, if you want to build a four-dimensional cube, Dalí's picture opposite shows the three-dimensional shape that you will have to fold up into four dimensions.

An alternative way to see yourself in two dimensions is to look at your shadow. It doesn't tell you everything about yourself in three dimensions but it gives you some idea. In the same way, we can study beasts in four dimensions by looking at their shadows in three dimensions.

However, these methods still provide a limited insight into what possible creatures live out there in four dimensions. After all, as with real shadows, two 4-D shapes with the same shadow are not necessarily the same shape.

For years mathematicians have been stumbling around to find a decent pair of 4-D glasses through which to view these creatures. Then, in 1982, a young graduate student in Oxford, Simon Donaldson, found an unexpected pair of glasses lying around in the physicist's backyard — Yang-Mills equations.

The Yang-Mills equations describe the behaviour of the forces, like gluons and bosons, which hold together subatomic particles. They are a more sophisticated version of Maxwell's equations in physics, which tell us how the forces of electricity and magnetism are related.

Professor Donaldson showed that the solutions of these equations provide a mysterious key to understanding what makes the four-dimensional world tick. He used the solutions to discover a fingerprint which, unlike the 3-D shadows, allowed him to distinguish whether two 4-D shapes were the same. Mathematicians call such fingerprints invariants. As with human beings, the fingerprint is a tiny portion of the whole entity but is sufficient to tell humans, and 4-D shapes, apart. Professor Donaldson's

work was ground-breaking. It earned him a Fields Medal, equivalent in mathematics to the Nobel prize. But the 4-D specs he had discovered were still very difficult to look through. The main problem with his invariants was that the fingerprints he produced were infinite, extending for ever.

However, physicists Nathan Seiberg at Rutgers University and Ed Witten at Princeton recently tossed a new equation into the debate. The Seiberg-Witten equations extend the Yang-Mills equations by describing not only the forces that bind matter but also how matter behaves. Professor Witten, famous in the mathematical world for applying his physicist's intuition to answer deep problems in mathematics, claimed that these new equations provided mathematicians with a new, easier-to-read fingerprint.

What made Professor Witten's 4-D specs so much clearer is a phenomenon called compactness. This quality makes infinite things look finite. Since mathematicians are essentially finite creatures at heart, they quickly took notice.

If you are confused about multidimensional space, take heart. So are mathematicians. It is still not understood why a bunch of equations in physics should help mathematicians, but the fact is that they do.

Meanwhile, the six-week meeting at the Newton Institute will bring together physicists and these four-dimensional explorers to see how much further they can peer into this murky world. But, now that physicists have tossed mathematicians a powerful pair of 4-D specs, we can begin to chart the mysterious realms of four dimensions.

Dr Marcus du Sautoy is a Royal Society University Research Fellow and a Fellow of Robinson College, Cambridge.



If you want to build a 4-D cube, Dalí's picture shows the 3-D shape that you will have to fold up into four dimensions

Those who have read their Hawking will reply 'time'

Putting a new curve on evolution

An original voice is welcomed by Nigel Hawkes

From our position of dominance in the world, it is natural for human beings to see evolution as an inevitable process designed to put us there. Natural but wrong, argues the palaeontologist Stephen Jay Gould in his latest book, *Life's Grandeur*, to be published by Jonathan Cape. The book attacks the idea that there is anything progressive about evolution. Natural selection, acting on the random variation that occurs in each species, is a directionless process that might just as easily not have produced human intelligence at all.

For more than 20 years, Professor Gould has been producing a stream of stimulating books which have won him a unique reputation. Less obviously, he has also been a passionate follower of baseball, whose copious statistics he deploys in *Life's Grandeur* to illustrate how evolution has appeared to progress without in fact doing so at all. It is according to this argument, all a matter of distribution curves which find successful baseball hitters — and the human species — lying at their outer limits. Next Monday Professor Gould will present these ideas in a *Times/Dillons* lecture at the Institute of Education in London.

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The games that take time Life in space. Sports for all seasons

WHY do some sports have a season that goes on for ever, while others make do with no more than a couple of dozen games to determine their league championship? Hands up if you thought this was simply a function of how greedy and grasping the promoters and clubs are. This can't be the whole truth, however. The US baseball season lasts a whopping 162 games, while American football makes do with just 16. There is no commensurate difference in the commercial motives of the people who run the two sports. Now an American psychologist, Dr Nicholas Christenfeld of the University of California in San Diego, has come up with a different explanation. He believes that season length is a function of the balance between skill and chance in every sport. "Con-

tests with too much chance are pointless as measures of relative ability," he argues in *Nature*. "Those with too little chance provide no suspense." As a result, sports have over the years evolved seasons that provide the right mix to keep spectators interested. He shows this by calculating the "reliability" of different sports — basically the degree to which results can be predicted by examining other results in the same league. For an individual game, this varies hugely, with baseball proving the most reliable and the two rugby codes, union and league, the most unreliable. Over a season, however, all sports achieve a reliability that is very similar, tending towards a state in which skill and chance play a roughly equal part in the final outcome. Reliable sports need few games to achieve this, unreli-

able sports lots of games. That, in essence, is why the American football leagues play off in just a single game, while the baseball World Series is the best of seven.

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When you become much more than a feminist issue

ON THIS DAY

£6.7

Chronicle of the 21st Century

Multi

When fat becomes much more than a feminist issue

Nigella Lawson hails a new women's magazine which celebrates being large

God, how refreshing it is to open a glossy magazine and see pictures of large women looking gorgeous. It's true that women's magazines and the fashion sections of the whole gamut of newspapers, do sporadically throw sweetmeats to the unmodel-like (the vast majority of their readers) by granting a feature on the hitherto unrecognised allure of the fleshier female, but somehow it always comes across as a sop. We all suspect anyway that the fashion editors who run such pieces in the first place would have a nervous breakdown if they even began to start bulging out of their size 8 Gucci hipsters.

32 (though you can bet that the models featured are all nearer a size 16 than a size 32) brings out a magazine to help them feel good about it, but it is extraordinary how this fact is kept upon for signs of deeper meaning. The wait gives way as a new Rubensian age is ushered in, is a common interpretation. Perhaps this can be put down to wishful thinking, because it ain't going to happen. The fat activists can trumpet this publication as much as they like, but no one is ever going to be convinced that it is better to be fat than thin. I think it is very important that women do see it is possible to look wonderful without having to be a size 10, but that's not quite the



Commercial aims

But eight million women in this country are, apparently, a size 16 or over. Catering for them, then, is not so much a case of special pleading, as a canny recognition that there is a sizeable gap in the market. The contemporary sensibility demands that everything be seen as a moral agenda, a political crusade, but it should be made absolutely clear that *Encore* magazine (I am not sure about the significance of the title — a plea for second helpings, maybe makes no such claim: it is purely a commercial enterprise. Not a newsstand title, but an own-label magazine from Evans (which used to be called Evans Outside), it is designed solely to sell more of its clothes.

same thing. The difficulty, apart from anything else, is that the women who look good in this magazine would look good in any size. Isabella Ladenis, one of the models and the daughter of the great chef, Nick, (she is, in an expression of my late maternal grandmother, surely come by her size honestly) is a beautiful woman; her size is irrelevant. And perhaps that's a key issue in all this. Women care desperately about their and other women's weight; men are much less bothered.

Like all women I have had my thinner times and my fatter (right now, postpartum, I'm about in the middle) and at my heavier it is the scrutinising eye of other women that I fear. Women can calibrate another's weight to



As every woman who's ever put on weight knows: Marilyn Monroe was a size 16. So are eight million British women

within an ounce. But I have never met a man who was much troubled by a woman's fluctuating mass. Luckily, I learnt this lesson young. I was at a party with a boyfriend and, as one does, was giving the once-over to all the other women in the room. "Do you think she's pretty?" I asked about one girl there. "No," he replied. "But," I countered, "she's got a very good figure." "You can't say things like that," he told me. "Someone's either attractive or they aren't. That's all there is to it: size doesn't come into it."

I suspect it is harder to see someone's attractiveness when they get over a certain size, but as every woman who's ever put on weight knows to chant: Marilyn Monroe was, after all, a size 16. We all know that judgmental. Somehow the fat activists want it both ways: they want to be fat-by-choice and fat-as-victim. And even more muddled is the desire to declare size irrelevant, not to be broached even, and yet to cling to it as a defining feature, as if the fatness itself were some politically charged, ideologically welded bond. And for all that attractiveness may not be in an indirect ratio to bodyweight (for otherwise, I suspect that "size doesn't matter" is no truer when trotted out to placate women as to soothe men. It does matter, but most significantly to ourselves alone.

For all the ideologically sound sloganeering, the real truth is that women do feel awful about themselves when they're overweight and it is the self-hatred, the self-flagellation and the self-disgust that makes them unhappy, not the projected judgment of other people. I don't deny that there is a gross intolerance of women who are deemed to have fallen at some notional aesthetic fence: that is undeniably distasteful.

Fat can be, as Susie Orbach (who is not fat) famously declared, a feminist issue. But it's a lot more besides. Of course, we know it is overeating that makes you fat, but it is what leads women to overeat which is the problem. It is a vicious circle: you feel bad about yourself so you overeat and so you feel bad about yourself, and so on ad infinitum. Maybe if those over a size 16 or 18 can open a magazine and see people of the same size looking wonderful, they will feel less alienated than when staring balefully at the punishing figures of the more skeletal models. Fashion is aspirational, but there is no reason why fatter women can't aspire to look good as well.

You can defend, celebrate and admire as much as you want (and I do want) but for ourselves, thanks very much, we'd rather be thin: and isn't that the truth?

Women care about their and other women's weight

The truth is we all feel better thinner rather than fatter. I took the line of the fat-activists in good faith until I put on three stone after the birth of my first child. And it was hell. I think it is wrong for fat to be demonised: it wasn't the end of the world, but I felt an awful lot better about myself when I'd lost it all. I suspect everyone does.

These days one is frowned upon for saying such a thing. Even to declare that one might be happier thinner (by which, I should add, I don't mean anorexically thin, just a size one can be by eating normally) is seen to be unpalatably

judgmental. Somehow the fat activists want it both ways: they want to be fat-by-choice and fat-as-victim. And even more muddled is the desire to declare size irrelevant, not to be broached even, and yet to cling to it as a defining feature, as if the fatness itself were some politically charged, ideologically welded bond. And for all that attractiveness may not be in an indirect ratio to bodyweight (for otherwise, I suspect that "size doesn't matter" is no truer when trotted out to placate women as to soothe men. It does matter, but most significantly to ourselves alone.

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Why fashion is about being thin, by Mary Quant

Xenophobia keeps us buying Meet Johnny Foreigner

The Referendum Party may have its signature music — the theme from *The Mission* — but it has not selected its official beverage. It might do well to choose Blackcurrant Tango, an alarmingly purple soft drink. The drink's TV advert, which has been accused of being anti-European and xenophobic, plays on the same attitudes that members of the party appear to hold. The advert has already attracted 36 complaints concerning xenophobia to the Independent Television Commission. It features an office worker reacting to a complaint about the drink from a French student — "Johnny French". He marches to the white cliffs of Dover, where he enters a boxing ring surrounded by hordes waving Union Jacks. He then shouts, "Come on France... Come on Europe... Come on the world... I drink Tango... Come and get me!" Above him, three fighter jets prepare to assault the Continent.

Black Label advert that depicted the overweight Germans rushing to occupy the best poolside spot. They were defeated by an Englishman who bounced his towel across the pool to unfurl onto the best sun lounger. All this to *The Dambusters* theme. That advert attracted 33 complaints to the ITC.

But it is not just the Germans who are stereotyped. In our view of the French was based on adverts, then we would expect the "average" French person's day to run thus: Wake up, organise a blockade of the Channel ports — Carling Black Label. Have lunch with an absurdly pretty girl — Eurostar. Spend the afternoon out letting your daughter know about your affair — Renault Clio. For the evening, be easily placated by your daughter and son-in-law's lateness by their offer of cheap wine — Piat d'Or.

It is our view of foreigners that makes The Referendum Party's latest advert so successful. Under the words, "Meet the British Government", it shows the 20 EU Commissioners, under which is listed their nationalities. "Disgraceful," the reader is supposed to think. "These are nearly all Johnny Foreigners!" Xenophobic adverts will never stop, but the joke is on us. Adverts that are xenophobic usually sell foreign goods. We buy those goods. We may laugh, but it is Johnny Foreigner who gets our cash.

We may laugh, but the joke is on us

GUY WALTERS

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FTP1

Dying for one's country

POETRY AND REMEMBRANCE

Starting today: Kenneth Baker MP's selection of war poems from his new anthology. Part 1: Melville and the American Civil War

Horace himself had served as a soldier in the civil war that followed Julius Caesar's assassination and, having committed himself to Brutus, he had been on the losing side at the battle of Philippi (42 BC). The ode of his, which contains the words *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*, is the classic expression of the most noble justification for war. Jonathan Swift translated this as:

How blest is he, who for his Country dies

Since Death pursues the Coward as he flies.

It was a duty to die for one's country, for the nation was greater than the individual. The Latin line has been chiselled into innumerable war memorials and paraphrased by leaders throughout history, both to encourage men to make the supreme sacrifice and to console the bereaved.

For many, going to war has

been a joyous and uplifting business. Ben Jonson reminded a friend that fighting revives "man's buried honour".

Julian Grenfell, who was to be killed by shrapnel in May, 1915, wrote to his mother about his own experience of fighting: "I adore war. It is like a big picnic. I have never been so well or so happy."

Even after five months in the trenches, warfare had kept for him the air of a knightly adventure; but for most that spirit was soon to sink beneath the mud of Flanders.

In the American Civil War, Herman Melville saw four regiments of Union troops marching out of town, "with fifes, and flags in mottoed pageantry... like the gods sublime". These same soldiers were packed into boats on the Potomac River, and attacked by Confederate forces at Ball's Bluff: a thousand were killed.



A child pays tribute in the Field of Remembrance in the garden of St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey



Recruiting for the Confederate Army, Woodstock

HERMAN MELVILLE

Ball's Bluff

A Reverie

*One noonday, at my window in the town,
I saw a sight - saddest that eyes can see -
Young soldiers marching lustily
Unto the wars.*

*With fifes, and flags in mottoed pageantry:
While all the porches, walks, and doors
Were rich with ladies cheering royally.*

*They moved like Juny morning on the wave,
Their hearts were fresh as clover in its prime
(It was the breezy summer time),*

*Life throbb'd so strong,
How should they dream that Death in a rosy dime
Would come to thin their shining throng?
Youth feels immortal, like the gods sublime.*

*Weeks passed; and at my window, leaving bed,
By night I mused, of easeful sleep bereft,
On those brave boys (Ah War! thy theft);
Some marching feet
Found pause at last by cliffs Potomac cleft:
Wakeful I mused, while in the street
Far footfalls died away till none were left.*

(October 1861)

The Faber Book of War Poetry is available to readers of The Times at the special reduced price of £17, a saving of £3 off the publisher's price. To order, call The Times Bookshop on 0345 660916

Celebrating the discreet charm of retro chic

The news that the Chrysler Corporation has adopted the 2CV as its flagship, or rather flagcar, for the emerging markets of China, India and South America heralds what may prove to be an explosion of industrial grave-robbing as 20th-century design classics, previously consigned to the design dustbin, are reworked for a millennial market apparently bereft of new ideas.

When it first appeared in 1948, the 2CV's designer, Pierre Boulanger, decreed that

From 'classic' toasters to Burt Bacarach and Bakelite telephones, retro style is the rage. Giles Coren looks at our obsession with the near past

it should be able to carry a farmer, a few chickens, and a basket of newly hatched eggs safely across a ploughed field. The new version, known as the CCV, comes with a more prosaic marketing pitch: "It is a people's car for an expanding automotive segment, positioned between a motorcycle and a traditional entry-level car or truck," says a Chrysler

press release. Considerably nearer to the motorcycle, some might say.

Ridiculed at conception, and mourned only by students and scrap merchants when European safety regulations sent it to the guillotine in 1990, the revamped Deux Chevaux conclusively proves that you have only to change the blurb, and time can be made to stand still.

Surfing on a crest of Burt Bacarach records, hipsters, analogue watches and telephones with letters on, we, the omnipotent consumers, are about to take a trip through time, shelling out again for the very things we were only recently so happy to give away to Oxfam.

For years we were satisfied with the standard chrome-

finished Russell Hobbs kettle, designed in 1956. And then, in the late 1970s, someone found a new plastic, Kemata acetal copolymer, which could withstand constant transition between coolness and great heat, and the plastic kettle was born. With it came an entirely new concept: the jug kettle. First launched by Redring Electrical in 1979 it has dominated the market ever since.

But soft. What is the Russell Hobbs "Classic" kettle? It glimmers on the newly un-Fornica'd and hastily rewooded kitchen surfaces of every image-conscious middle-class home in Britain. It is none other than the same rusty old thing you binned in a plastic frenzy in the early 1980s, scrubbed and polished and back on the market. A similar reversal is taking place in the world of the toaster, too.

If Roberts Radios, in such a high-tech world, can still rip out a profit selling wooden-topped, 1940s-style radios with a straight-up aerial, then why shouldn't someone bring out a crystal set again? Bang & Olufsen, perhaps? (Grundig, I can exclusively reveal, is about to launch a huge wooden television with a tiny curved screen and no remote control. Best of all, it receives only in black and white, turning even the frazzled Keanu Reeves vehicle instantly into a film noir.)

Xerox, too, may feel tempted to resurrect the Roneo machine. Who did not thrill to the alcohol smell of those proto-photocopies they used to hand out in school, with their shiny paper and purple writing? To bring them back would have a fantastically positive effect on education. The ink

used to fade after about 20 copies, so classes would have to go back to being that small again. And you wouldn't get cancer, as you do from a word-processor. Not to mention the benefits of the exercise you would get from cranking the handle. By way of competing, Canon could make a killing selling carbon paper to the Chinese, and those old-fashioned paper guillotines (the gerontocracy could use them for chopping off people's hands, if there wasn't any paper).

And what about Dymotape? Let us launch a counter-revolution against the miserable Post-it note. Lurking in attics all over this proud nation are millions of those squeezey gun things with the dial on the top that always gets one letter wrong which you don't notice until you have clicked out an entire sentence. Both the guns themselves, and the plastic strips with their embossed white lettering of bruised polymer, could easily be made functional and usable.



Radio retro: this Roberts model in black suede cost 18 guineas in 1960. Price today: £2,000

tic must-haves, once more. It may sound absurd, but look at the Triumph Thunderbird. Once the icon and transport of a generation, and Marlon Brando's choice in *The Wild One*, it looked to be dead with the closure of Triumph in the 1970s. But Triumph has started up again, and is making the classic once more: same look, same badge, updated engine. It's on the cover of all the bike magazines, hiker-boys in their for-

ties are chuffed to bits, and Pamela Anderson even showed up on one in *Barb Wire*.

It would be nice to see the same thing done for the original football. Away with these laminated, waterproof, lightweight things. Bring back the brown ones, stitched from strips

rather than hexagons of leather, that absorbed water, and couldn't be kicked off the ground after half-time on a wet day. What the modern game needs is a few broken necks. And then you would have to bring back the old-fashioned boot. That would put paid to all this fancy, European-style passing.

And who will stick their neck out to bring back the Thermos flask with glass inside, that broke if you raised your voice near it?

It is surely no more ludicrous a suggestion than the churning of the Bakelite dial telephone. But that has reappeared, albeit with buttons in the finger holes, so you get that retro-feel without the immense effort of dialling. Why not bring back the 1875 Remington Rand typewriter, and hook it up to a PC? You would get the familiar clang of typing and the cachet of a design classic, with the correctness of a computer.

And, of course, it would be an ideal excuse to resurrect the

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سكان من الامل

'I felt that I had met my destiny'

Ellen Schwamm can still remember in vivid detail the day she first read anything by Harold Brodkey. It was a short story about helping his adoptive mother to come to terms with dying. Ellen, who was grieving for her father, was affected so powerfully by it that she felt compelled to write to him.

"I couldn't imagine what to say, so I wrote: 'There doesn't seem to be anything to say but I love you. Please never stop writing.'"

That was more than 20 years ago and Ellen, then a middle-aged, middle-class New York housewife and mother of three, did not feel sufficiently brave to post it.

Brodkey, after all, was already a controversial figure of some renown, regarded by some as one of America's greatest living writers, and by others as an amusing fraud, on the ground that his output — a collection of short stories and articles — was exceptional but slender.

Ellen tucked the letter in her desk drawer and read and re-read *A Story In An Almost Classical Mode*, "shaking my head and trying to figure out how he did it. It touched me so much, it reached me in places I had never been touched before."

When the chance came a few years later to meet the author, she resisted. "I had read everything he had written by then, I was such an ardent admirer, but I didn't want to spoil the cerebral image I had of him."

By this time she had forged a minor literary reputation of her own, writing a first novel which received favourable reviews.

Along the way she had become friendly with three people who were also friends of Brodkey's and who were insistent that she should meet him.

Eventually she gave in to curiosity and agreed to meet Brodkey at one mutual friend's Madison Avenue bookshop. Two weeks later she left her husband for him.

It was a fusion both physical and metaphysical. They were together 17 years, until he died of Aids in January this year. Faced with this century's most

A middle-class, middle-aged New York housewife gave up everything to be with the writer Harold Brodkey, who died of Aids this year. Interview by Sandra Parsons

shameful disease, he reacted in classic Brodkey fashion, with an article in *The New Yorker* entitled "To My Readers". It began: "I have Aids."

Although openly homosexual for long periods between the end of his first marriage in 1960 and his subsequent marriage to Ellen in October 1980, he was, he said, surprised, because "I have not been exposed since 1977..."

Does Ellen believe that "Harold always told the truth and if he had wanted to have an open relationship he would have said so. He didn't sink around, he was very courageous always. We were together 17 years but we were never apart. We finally decided to go to separate gyms at some point because we were never out of each other's sight. Although of course if you want to be unfaithful there is always an opportunity. But in fact there is no way either of us would, we wanted to be together and we trusted each other, although for people who have no experience of fidelity it will be impossible to convince them."

It is hard to imagine anyone being unfaithful to her, least of all Brodkey, whose lyrical account of dying is dedicated to "Ellen, my light..." and is an unbearably moving testament to their love.

At 62, she is a beautiful woman, graceful and straight-backed in a perfectly cut black trouser suit. Formidably strong, there is also a wisdom and gentleness there. It is impossible to better Brodkey's description of her: "A fine-boned tyrant who looks a bit like a small Garbo."

She never doubted she had done the right thing in leaving

her husband for him. "I felt I had met my destiny. Most of us live in a fictional universe, you tell yourself stories all day long, and that was the way I lived up until I met Harold, who didn't have a fantasy life. He was the only person I have ever known who really lived in the present moment."

"When you come across a person like this with whom you negotiate each minute, you can't say to such a person, 'what future do we have?'

because he will say, 'how do I know?', which is the truth. He won't say, 'we'll be together until the day we die'. Harold wouldn't do that polite lying. And so I felt I just had to be with him and I didn't ask how. We just did it. I think my children understood — two were in college and one

still in high school — although they were very upset. But as it turned out I think they have profited deeply from knowing Harold, who was a very profound influence."

Brodkey was hard work but Ellen did not mind. She looked after him in every way, running the house, editing his writing, freeing him to think and to create. He had spent 29 years writing his first novel, *The Runaway Soul*, constantly revising it in his search for perfection. It made him the reported inspiration for Jay McInerney's character Victor Propp in *Brightness Falls*, whose "reputation grew with each book he failed to publish."

When *The Runaway Soul* was finally published, in 1991, it received mixed reviews. Salman Rushdie hailed it as "an epic of the interior world... worth a hundred safe little well-made books", while one

American critic concluded: "Death would have been a smarter career move."

Ellen, however, had no doubt that her husband possessed a huge talent, and voluntarily put her own literary career on hold to dedicate herself to his. "He needed an inordinate amount of care, he spent all his time thinking and writing. He wanted an intellectual companion and I was his editor. I couldn't carry his language in my head and write my books as well, but in life we all make judgments and his work was more valuable than mine, that was my decision."

When she learnt he had Aids she assumed tests would show she was HIV-positive, too. "I had to wait ten days to find out but I felt certain that I would be, so we decided we would straighten our affairs and then commit suicide together and not burden anyone with this nightmare. And then when I discovered that I was negative I was not as happy as I thought I would be. I was kind of horrified, but then relieved, because it meant I could take care of Harold and that he could have a civilised death and some dignity."



"Most of us live in a fictional universe, and that was the way I lived until I met Harold. I had to be with him, I didn't ask how. We just did it"

but I sort of knew it was going to happen when I was asleep in the other room because Harold was so perverse always. He died at five in the morning. The nurse came rushing in and said she had waited two or three seconds but there was no next breath. I went in and kissed him, and held his hand for a bit. He died of wasting so he was extremely thin. He looked like a Roman emperor on one of those coins.

his face was very stark and very beautiful and very knowing."

She continues to live in their Manhattan apartment, editing his work for a book of short stories. "But I am not completely miserable. It was awful, but I emerged with more strength because Harold showed me that dying is part of living. It was a privilege to care for someone who was dying so courageously. Of course I am lonely from time to time. In 62 years I never met anyone else who could match up to this man and I don't expect to ever again. The hardest thing about living alone is there is no one there to tell you the truth. But I had it for a while and I am grateful, more than you can know."

● This Wild Darkness: The Story of My Death, by Harold Brodkey, published by Fourth Estate on November 11, £14.99

When you are living out final things you put aside pettiness'

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YAM6JU

We often said it's not so terrible. He didn't rage against dying. He never said, why me? Ever. He said to me, 'I'm 62 and I never expected to live this long. Don't look away, death is maybe the greatest adventure of all. Let's do this with our eyes open. Just watch in awe, watch me as I die and learn, see what it's like.'

"I said, 'It's easy to be strong now, it's after that it's going to be difficult because I can't imagine a life that doesn't include you being here.' He said: 'I'm not going to leave you, and you know it, I am going to be around.' And he is. I'm not a mystic, I'm not New Age, but I feel very keenly the quality of energy that was his, and I recall him. It's enormously comforting."

It took him almost three years to die, which might seem a prolonged agony, but in fact, says Ellen with gentle solemnity, they were profoundly happy.

"When you are living out final things you can put aside the pettiness of life. It focuses you incredibly on each other and you live in a cocoon of sorts, with nothing but thoughts of great beauty and great emotion around you. Before he was ill Harold was always calling me to look through the window at a

wonderful sunset and I'd say, 'yes, very nice', but now we would lie stretched on the bed holding hands, really seeing. It created a kind of profound happiness that I have not experienced before. The only thing I can liken it to is when my children were born."

He died at home, while Ellen was asleep — which she did only between midnight and dawn. "I wanted to be with him the moment that he died,

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

The Whitechapel's Inside the Visible show presents fascinating work by 37 women artists



THEATRE

Prunella Scales stars at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in A Perfect Ganesh



POP

Branching out: The Screaming Trees come pounding into London for an Astoria gig



DANCE

Darcy Bussell stretches her limbs as Covent Garden stages The Prince of the Pagodas

Leaving it to the music

DOUG VARONE has done rather well for himself on the occasion of his British debut, landing a place in not one but two London festivals.

The programme the American brought on Friday consisted of four works set to the kind of music that has served

DANCE Doug Varone Queen Elizabeth Hall

other choreographers well. But where they have responded to musical specifics with an equally specific dance language, Varone seems content to let the music do the work for him, churning out a succession of derivative choreography that amounts to little more than movement accompaniment.

Varone himself took the stage for a duet with Gwen Welliver. In Thine Eyes, which uses Michael Nyman's Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs, the style staccato, the movements broken up into their component parts, the dancers, like mechanical dolls, trying to solve the puzzle of articulate physical communication.

DEBRA CRAINE

POP: Dubstar support Erasure's greatest hits tour in Glasgow; verbal putdowns from BabyBird; and no-frills blues-rock from Reef



Erasure at Glasgow's Barrowland ballroom: "It fell to Andy Bell, a natural performer and flamboyant gay icon, to provide the dramatic interest"

Journey into the past

Neil Tennant of the Pet Shop Boys, a band which sparkly synthesizer trio Dubstar evoke in their more inspired moments, once remarked that one advantage of being pop rather than rock is not having to prove you can perform live.

Oasis-style guitar rock on one side and younger teen-pop acts on the other. With their last two albums proving to be largely hit-free, this odd couple have taken the most dangerous step any pure pop band can take: they have grown up, trusting in their fans to mature with them.

Erasure And while durable party anthems such as A Little Respect and Victim of Love were glowingly received, their presentation seemed laboured and haphazard. Most jarring of all was Clarke's electronic message board, which flashed the somewhat desperate suggestion "clap along if you like" during the duo's sombre new single, In My Arms.

the dramatic interest. This he did, though his fake, hairy chest and lumbering ballerina moves were more pup stripper than pop superstar. And while durable party anthems such as A Little Respect and Victim of Love were glowingly received, their presentation seemed laboured and haphazard.

STEPHEN DALTON

Steve's flying fur and feather land

WHEN You're Gorgeous climbed to No 3 in the singles charts, it transformed BabyBird's Steve Jones from a cult figure into one of the unluckiest stars of 1996.

Until recently, BabyBird's celebrity was confined to Jones's Sheffield bedroom, where he wrote and recorded 400 songs in the space of six years. But they and he went almost completely unnoticed until he hit upon the DIY notion of releasing five limited edition albums in 12 months. Now signed to a major label, BabyBird's "official" debut album, Ugly Beautiful, was released last week.

There is a strand of raucous, no-frills, British blues-rock that is often thin on the ground, but has never entirely gone away. The genre was invented by Free in 1968. Three decades and one anagram later, we have Reef.

BabyBird Electric Ballroom

cabaret - a kind of Mike Flowers Pops fronted by the most recent Prime Suspect hero, the Street. When he sang the lines: "I'm like a bad day on your good, good night" from the band's first hit single Goodnight, he not only gave the audience one of the two songs that many of them had paid specifically to hear, but also set the agenda for the entire evening.

ANN SCANLON

Durable formula

Reef Kilburn National A preliminary burst of Place Your Hands and Good Feeling sends the horses in the most pit at the Kilburn National into overdrive. The band then wade into a selection of new songs in which the rhythm section skillfully teases out the swing from some severely chunky, sledgehammer riff, while Gary Stringer's bluesy melody lines like a man suffering a bout of high fever and the sore throat from hell.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Table with multiple columns listing theatre and opera listings, including titles like 'The Woman in Black', 'The Phantom of the Opera', and 'The Complete Works of William Shakespeare'. Each entry includes venue, showtimes, and contact information.

صكنا من الاجل

FILM

Good history, good propaganda, or just good cinema? Michael Collins comes to Britain

BOOKS

Without Consent is Frances Fyfield's disturbing new mystery, about the hunt for a rapist

JAZZ

Top saxophonist John Harle teams up with Elvis Costello at the Festival Hall

MUSIC

... while Michael Tilson Thomas brings his San Francisco orchestra to the Barbican

ARTS TUESDAY TO FRIDAY IN SECTION 2

The first quarter-century

Rodney Milnes sees Thomas Allen celebrate 25 years at Covent Garden in a revival of Don Giovanni

Two quarter-century anniversaries converged at Covent Garden on Friday: 25 years of the Midland Bank Proms, and Thomas Allen's 25th year with the Royal Opera...

But this was no one-man show: the rest of the cast was superb. Anthony Rolfe Johnson sang the first lines of both Ottavio's arias quite exquisitely...



Thomas Allen in the title role of Don Giovanni: "the joy of his performance was its utter freshness"

Creativity of the outsiders

Hilary Finch reports on a festival celebrating the contribution Jews have made to Viennese artistic life

Vienna 1900. "There was no place," wrote the writer and collector Stefan Zweig, "where it was easier to be a European..."

The festival's wide-ranging, month-long programme of concerts, theatre, cinema, symposiums, literary evenings and exhibitions explores many of the paradoxes within this plurality...

CONCERTS: A new Peter Maxwell Davies premiered; a Swedish soprano causes a sensation

Model modernity

STRATHCLYDE is dead: long live the Strathclyde Concerts. Although the local authority which commissioned the project no longer exists...

SCO/Davies Edinburgh

heroic timpani part as the slow moving undercurrent which surfaces in the middle and which remains briefly exposed at the very end after the festive activity has died away...

GERALD LARNER

Swedish passion

LSO/Chailly Barbican

IN THE second of his London Symphony Orchestra concerts, Riccardo Chailly tackled Wagner and Schoenberg...

Delany possesses what must be the most natural Sieglinde voice around. She poured out streams of sensuous tone, from gleaming top to a mezzo-like lower register...

The rest of the LSO's mini-

sculpted singing deprived the character of much of his menace. Chailly seemed content to give a concert performance of the score, without dramatic urgency to make it sound like the first act of a great opera...

JOHN ALLISON

Son rises in the West

ONE of the pleasures of these plays is watching the tricks of the playwright's craft mirror the political cunning of the characters. Hal's playful denunciation of Falstaff while acting his father, for example, prefigures his actual denunciation with the inevitability of night following day...

Henry IV Parts 1 and 2 Oxford Playhouse

marks him as Henry's son rather than Falstaff's. The clarity of Unwin's production is admirable both for communicating a plot full of historical complexities and for the actors' speaking voices...

Falstaff's gags lack hilarity. Perhaps it is that the production takes a hard moral line on Falstaff, or perhaps West Sr is taking a back seat to allow his son to shine (which he does). His performance is always excellent but almost too understated...

CLARE BAYLEY

Buy the mobile phone. Get the CD player free.

Advertisement for Nokia mobile phone and CD player. Includes features like 100 hrs standby-time, 45 name/number memory, and a limited offer price of £9.99. Includes a table for Vodafone PersonalWorld plans.

Kenya Safari advertisement. Includes text: 'ON SAFARI OR DOWN ON THE BEACH', '5N/5N THORN TREE SAFARI £799', '14N/14N MOMBASA - Beach Hotel £429', 'XMAS HOME OR AWAY £649', and contact info for Smak.

Bob Mills' Musical Autobiography advertisement. Features a row of portraits of Bob Mills and text: 'LOOK BACK IN ANGORA TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 10PM.', 'BOB MILLS' MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY. WATCH 25 YEARS OF BAD HAIR, STRANGE SHIRTS AND GREAT MUSIC VIDEOS.', 'VH-1 MUSIC THAT MEANS SOMETHING', and 'available via cable and satellite'.

NEWS

Blair pledge on morality agenda

Tony Blair vows today that he will not be driven off the new morality agenda dominating British politics...

Fireworks safety call

Ian Lang was under pressure from safety campaigners to introduce new laws banning giant fireworks...

Records bank

Plans for a £1 billion computer scheme to centralise every citizen's personal records...

Fruitless search

A two-year worldwide search has failed to produce a leader for the London School of Economics...

Cane campaign

Two disused military bases are to be opened as prisons in an attempt to ease overcrowding...

Prison camps

Two disused military bases are to be opened as prisons in an attempt to ease overcrowding...

'Cheat' walks out

Flyona Campbell, the first woman to walk the world, will be removed from the Guinness Book of Records...

Hebron visit

Malcolm Rifkind arrived in Hebron on a visit to underline his insistence that both Israel and the Palestinians should do all they can to reach agreement...

Toes must go

The Duchess of York's toes, famously caressed on a French sun terrace, are to be banished from the front of the British edition of her new autobiography...

Zaire plea

France called on Europe to prepare for intervention in eastern Zaire as Paris confirmed it was considering plans to open "humanitarian corridors" for a million Hutu refugees...

HRT trial

A 25-year trial designed to answer the questions about hormone replacement therapy, taken by one in three British women in their 50s, begins today...

Clinton pursuit

As the clock ticks towards the opening of the polls tomorrow, President Clinton is relentlessly criss-crossing the nation in pursuit of the second term...

Looser ties

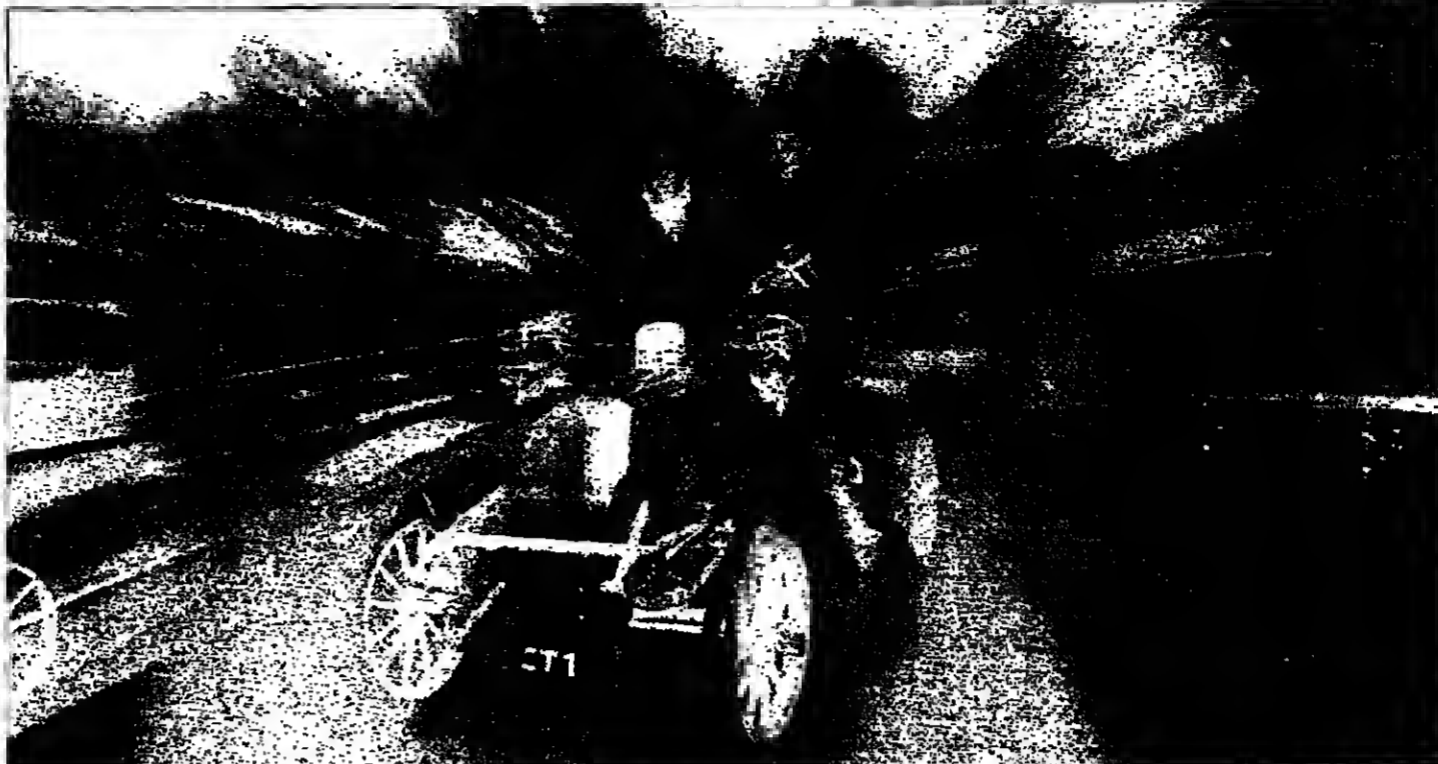
An election campaign on the Isle of Man, where the parliamentary system began 1,000 years ago, will return a government committed to loosening ties with Westminster and Brussels...

Serbia poll

The Socialists of President Milosevic of Serbia were poised for victory as about seven million Serbs went to the polls yesterday...

Touching Cleopatra's legacy

The royal areas of ancient Alexandria, 2,000 years ago the playground of Cleopatra and Mark Antony, has been mapped for the first time...



Mike and Claire Timms set off in their 1903 De Dion Bouton in the RAC Centenary Veteran Car Run from London to Brighton

BUSINESS

Economy: smaller companies report higher than average growth in output, orders, employment and pay in the latest quarterly Business Opinion Survey...

Moral crisis: insurers blame breakdown in family and community disciplines for an 80 per cent rise over five years in claims for malicious damage to property...

Co-ops: Graham Melmoth, new chief executive of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, hopes finally to achieve the long-desired merger with the Co-operative Retail Society...

ARTS

Weekend of pop: Erasure take to the road in Glasgow with a greatest hits tour, which could be viewed as a salvage operation on a flagging career...

Happy anniversary: Thomas Allen celebrates a quarter-century at Covent Garden with a fine performance in the Royal Opera's revival of Don Giovanni...

Creative energy: a festival in London is celebrating the contribution that Jews have made to artistic life in Vienna...

Dramatic duo: Timothy and Sam West, father and son, play Falstaff and Prince Hal in English Touring Theatre's fine production of Henry IV Parts 1 and 2...

TECHNIQUE

Sizeable gap: eight million women in Britain are, apparently, size 16 or over. Nigella Lawson on a new women's magazine that celebrates being large...

Poetry and Remembrance: starting today, the MP Kenneth Baker's selection of war poems from his new anthology...

Fourth dimension: Marcus du Sautoy asks how we can look at multidimensional shapes when we have only 3-D vision...

Future cure: Southampton Medical School is at the boundaries of medical research...

FOOTBALL

Newcastle United returned to the top of the Premiership by beating Middlesbrough 3-1 at St James' Park...

Rugby union: Tim Gavin, the New South Wales No 8, is flying to Scotland to replace Mark Connors, the fourth player injured on the Australians' tour...

Golf: Laura Davies is poised to become the first British golfer to finish top of the money lists in the United States and Europe in the same year...

Cricket: the England A team had a disappointing start to their tour of Australia, losing by nine wickets to the New South Wales second team, but not before Owais Shah collected a second half-century...

Racing: the Irish-trained Oscar Schindler seeks to justify favouritism by winning the Melbourne Cup early tomorrow...

The winning numbers: 7, 23, 32, 35, 43, 48, bonus 25. Eleven tickets with six numbers won £860,652 each...

TV LISTINGS

Preview: There is humour in a film about men working down Belfast's drains, but the political divide is never far away in Short Stories: Down the Drains (C4, 8.00pm)...

OPINION

Europe's promises: Will British taxpayers end up paying for the pensions of the Germans, Italians and French? Page 23

The Hebron bargain: There is a real danger that the force of events in the streets of Hebron will rise up and consume both Netanyahu and Arafat... Page 23

Poetry of remembrance: A masterful new Faber anthology of war poetry, compiled by Kenneth Baker, brings together the stately and inspirational... Page 23

COLUMNS

TONY BLAIR: We are seeking to balance opportunity with responsibility as the only basis for a modern welfare state...

PETER RIDDELL: Bill Clinton's imminent re-election is already being seen as a portent of a Labour victory next year...

MATTHEW PARRIS: If Sumerians temple came down; if the Sumerians and the Egyptians faltered; if the Greeks came to naught; if Rome fell; if China reverted; if the Incas imploded; if the strange towers and fortifications you will find in the Zimbabwe ruins so overshadow the primitive culture which was encouraged squinting in their shade, why should we prove unprecedentedly different?...

Barry Porter, Conservative MP for South Wirral; Wang Li, Chinese Communist propagandist; Sir Eric Drake, former chairman of British Petroleum... Page 25

Morality debate: NHS efficiency; oldest shipwreck war memorials; fishing policy... Page 23



IN THE TIMES

FEMALE ART: The Whitechapel Art Gallery celebrates more than three dozen women artists

LAW: Why the insurance industry is proving crucial to no win, no fee cases



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,316

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some pre-filled letters.

Answers to the crossword puzzle, including 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN' sections.

AA INFORMATION: Latest Road and Weather conditions, Weather by Fax, World City Weather, Motoring, Car reports by fax.

HIGHEST & LOWEST: Weather data for various locations, including highest and lowest temperatures.

FLIGHT SAVERS: Advertisement for flights to Glasgow, Edinburgh, or Aberdeen for £59.

FORECAST: General weather forecast for England and Wales, and a table of weather conditions for various regions.

AROUND BRITAIN: Table showing weather conditions for various locations across Britain.

ABROAD: Table showing weather conditions for various international locations.

Weather map of the UK showing pressure systems, wind directions, and weather symbols.

Changes to chart below from noon: Low D will slowly move away north-eastwards, as low F moves across the Atlantic and deepens.

Table of flight times and prices for various destinations, including London, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen.